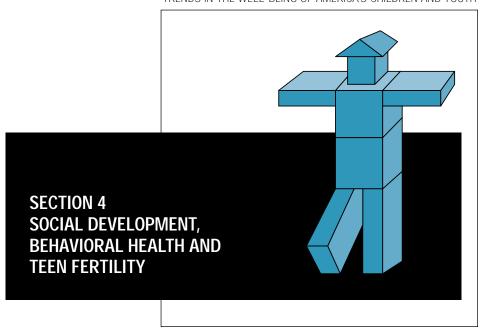
## TRENDS IN THE WELL-BEING OF AMERICA'S CHILDREN AND YOUTH





#### SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

## SD 1.1 LIFE GOALS: THE PERCENT OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO RATED SELECTED PERSONAL AND SOCIAL LIFE GOALS AS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT

Table SD 1.1 presents the percent of high school seniors who rated selected personal and social life goals as extremely important for 1976 through 1994. Personal goals include: being successful at work, having a good marriage and family life, and having lots of money. Social goals include: making a contribution to society, working to correct social and economic inequalities, and being a leader in the community.

An overview of these measures shows that in 1994 a majority of seniors thought that it was extremely important to be successful at work (63 percent), and to have a good marriage and family life (76 percent). By contrast, the percentage who attached this level of importance to the social goals of making a contribution to society, working to correct social and economic inequality, and being a leader in the community is substantially smaller, ranging from 14 percent to 24 percent. Twenty-six percent believed that having lots of money was extremely important.

Trends between 1976 and 1994 indicate that a rising percentage of seniors attach great importance to the personal goals of being successful at work (from 53 percent to 63 percent) and making lots of money (from 15 percent to 26 percent). The percent reporting having a good marriage and family life as extremely important stayed relatively high and steady at around 75 percent. Among the social goals, there were increases in the percentage who think that it is extremely important to make a contribution to society (18 percent to 24 percent), and to become a leader in the community (7 percent to 14 percent), and to correct social and economic inequalities (10 percent to 14 percent).

In 1994, blacks were more likely than whites to view as extremely important issues such as being successful at work (79 percent versus 60 percent), having lots of money (47 percent versus 22 percent), and correcting social and economic inequalities (25 percent versus 11 percent). The two groups appeared equally likely to attach extreme importance to having a good marriage and family life, a rate that has hovered at around 75 percent for both races over time. Clearly, black youth continue to attach great importance to marriage and family despite their considerably lower marriage rates.

Across the six goals rates vary little between males and females with two exceptions. In 1994, females were more likely to indicate that having a good marriage and family life was extremely important (81 percent versus 70 percent), and less likely to report that having lots of money was an extremely important goal (19 percent versus 32 percent).

Table SD 1.1 PERCENT OF HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS WHO RATE SELECTED LIFE GOALS AS BEING "EXTREMELY IMPORTANT": 1976 - 1994

	1976	1981	1986	1991	1992	1993	1994
Personal Goals							
Being Successful in My Line of Work							
Total	53	57	61	62	66	65	63
Gender							
Male	53	58	62	60	63	63	61
Female	52	57	60	64	69	67	66
Race							
White	50	55	58	59	65	62	60
Black	67	71	73	75	80	74	79
Having a Good Marriage and Family Life							
Total	73	76	75	76	78	79	76
Gender							
Male	66	71	69	71	72	74	70
Female	80	89	82	83	84	85	81
Race							
White	72	77	76	76	79	79	76
Black	75	73	76	78	75	76	72
Having Lots of Money							
Total	15	18	27	28	29	26	26
Gender							
Male	20	24	34	37	35	32	32
Female	11	13	18	19	22	18	19
Race							
White	12	15	24	25	24	20	22
Black	33	32	38	39	46	45	47
Social Goals	00	02	00	0,	10	10	• • •
Making a Contribution to Society							
Total	18	18	17	21	22	24	24
Gender	10	10	.,				
Male	16	19	18	20	22	25	23
Female	20	17	16	22	23	25	25
Race	20	17	10	22	20	20	20
White	18	18	16	20	22	24	23
Black	23	21	20	27	27	25	29
Working to Correct Social and Economic Inequalities	20	21	20	21	21	20	27
Total	10	10	9	12	15	15	14
Gender	10	10	,	12	13	15	17
Male	8	9	7	11	14	14	12
Female	13	10	11	13	17	16	16
Race	13	10	11	13	17	10	10
White	8	7	7	10	13	12	11
Black	20	21	19	21	26	21	25
Being a Leader in My Community	20	۷ ۱	17	۷ ۱	20	۷ ۱	20
Total	7	8	9	11	13	13	14
Gender	1	U	,	1.1	13	13	17
Male	8	8	11	12	14	17	14
rviale Female	6	8 7	6	10	14	17	13
	U	/	U	10	1.1	10	13
Race White	6	7	8	9	11	12	12
Black	14	14	12	17	21	19	21

Source: Bachman, J. G., Johnston, L. D. & O' Malley, P. M. "Monitoring the Future: Questionnaire Responses from the Nations' High School Seniors" 1992, 1994 Questionnaire Form 1-5 numbers C13B and C13C in each report.

Johnston, L. D., Bachman, J. G. & O' Malley, P. M. "Monitoring the Future: Questionnaire Responses from the Nations' High School Seniors" 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1993 Questionnaire Form 1-5 numbers C13B and C13C in each report.

#### **SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

## SD 1.2 POSITIVE PEER INFLUENCES: PEER APPROVAL OF HARD WORK AND GOOD BEHAVIOR IN SCHOOL

The attitudes of a student's peers are of interest to parents, teachers, and society because they are considered by many to influence the youth's own attitudes and behavior. Table SD 1.2 indicates the extent to which students in grades 6-12 in 1993 reported that their peers approved of working hard for grades and behaving well in school.

Asian students were more likely than students of other racial/ethnic origins to report that their peers believe it is very important to work hard for good grades (51 percent of Asian students compared to between 37 percent and 41 percent for white, black and Hispanic students). Asian students were also more likely to report that their peers believe it is very important to behave in school; 40 percent versus 34 percent among Hispanic students, 31 percent among black and 29 percent among white students.

Elementary school students were also more likely to report peer approval of hard work and good behavior than junior or senior high school students. Among elementary school students, 45 percent report peer approval of working hard for good grades compared to only 35 percent of junior high and 38 percent of senior high school students. A similar pattern is found for peer approval of good behavior in school, with the respective percentages for the three groups being 40 percent, 29 percent, and 27 percent.

Table SD 1.2 POSITIVE PEER INFLUENCES: PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPORTING PEER APPROVAL OF HARD WORK FOR GOOD GRADES AND GOOD BEHAVIOR IN SCHOOL, BY RACE/ETHNICITY AND SCHOOL GRADE. U.S. STUDENTS IN GRADES 6-12, 1993

	Very Important to Work Hard For Good Grades	Very Important to Behave Well in School
Race/Ethnicity		
White	37	29
Black	41	31
Hispanic	40	34
Asian	51	40
School Grade Level		
Elementary	45	40
Middle or Junior High	35	29
Senior High	38	27

Source: Zill, N. and Nord, C.W. (1994). *Running in Place.* Washington, DC: Child Trends, Inc., based on tabulations from the National Household Education Survey.

#### **SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

#### SD 1.3 RELIGIOUS ATTENDANCE AND RELIGIOSITY

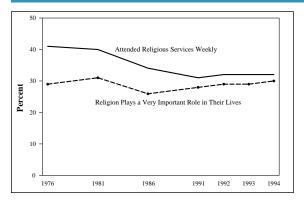
The percent of high school seniors who reported weekly religious attendance declined between 1976 and 1991 from 41 percent to 31 percent. From 1991 to 1994 rates of reported weekly attendance remained fairly constant at between 31 and 32 percent. (*See* Figure SD 1.3) Rates have decreased for both males (36 percent to 30 percent) and females (46 percent to 35 percent) between 1976 and 1994, with females the most likely to report attending throughout the period. (*See* Table SD 1.3)

In 1976, white seniors were somewhat more likely to report regular religious attendance than black seniors with rates of 42 percent and 37 percent, respectively. Due to a decline in attendance rates among white seniors, this situation had reversed by 1994, with rates of 32 percent for white seniors and 39 percent for black seniors.

Given the drop in attendance rates it is perhaps surprising that the percent of high school seniors who report that religion plays a very important role in their lives has remained fairly stable between 1976 and 1994 at 30 percent. (*See* Figure SD 1.3) In 1994, females were somewhat more likely than males to report that religion plays a very important role at 32 percent and 27 percent, respectively. This five percentage point difference is half what it was in 1976, when rates were 34 percent for females and 24 percent for males. (*See* Table SD 1.3)

The most notable contrast concerning the reported importance of religion is between black and white seniors. Between 1976 and 1994, approximately one half of black seniors have consistently reported that religion plays a very important role in their lives. This is approximately double the reported rate for white seniors over that same time period.

Figure SD1.3 RELIGIOUS ATTENDANCE AND RELIGIOSITY AMONG HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS 1976 - 1994



Source: Bachman, J.G., Johnston, L.D. & O'Malley, P.M. "Monitoring the Future: Questionnaire Responses from the Nations' High School Seniors" 1992, 1994 Questionnaire Form 1-6 numbers C13B and C13C in each report. Johnston, L.D., Bachman, J.G. & O'Malley, P.M. "Monitoring the Future: Questionnaire Responses from the Nation's High School Seniors" 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1993.

Table SD 1.3 PERCENT OF HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS WHO REPORT REGULAR (WEEKLY) RELIGIOUS ATTENDANCE, AND WHO RATE RELIGION AS PLAYING A "VERY IMPORTANT" ROLE IN THEIR LIVES: 1976 - 1994

Percent Reporting:	1976	1981	1986	1991	1992	1993	1994
Regular (Weekly) Religious Attendance							
Total	41	40	34	31	32	32	32
Gender							
Male	36	36	31	28	31	29	30
Female	46	44	38	34	34	34	35
Race							
White	42	41	35	31	32	31	32
Black	37	40	36	38	35	35	39
Percent Reporting that Religion Plays a Very Important Role in Th	neir Lives.						
Total	29	31	26	28	29	29	30
Gender							
Male	24	25	23	24	26	26	27
Female	34	36	30	31	33	33	32
Race							
White	26	27	23	24	25	24	26
Black	51	51	51	50	51	51	49

Source: Bachman, J. G. , Johnston, L. D. & O' Malley, P. M. "Monitoring the Future: Questionnaire Responses from the Nations' High School Seniors" 1992, 1994 Questionnaire Form 1-6 numbers C13B and C13C in each report.

Johnston, L. D., Bachman, J. G. & O' Malley, P. M. "Monitoring the Future: Questionnaire Responses from the Nations' High School Seniors" 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1993 Questionnaire Form 1-5 numbers C13B and C13C in each report.

#### **SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

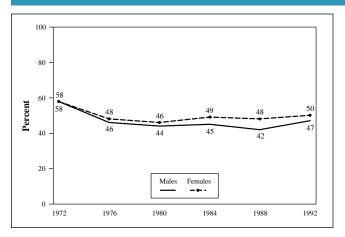
#### SD 1.4 YOUNG ADULTS REGISTERED TO VOTE

Voting is a seminal act of citizenship in a democracy. Voter registration among youth may be seen as an indicator of the level of youth commitment to become actively involved in the democratic process. The percent of young adults in the United States who are registered to vote varies from year to year. To examine trends, it is appropriate to look at the proportion during years of presidential elections, when turnout tends to be highest.

As shown in Table SD 1.4.a, in 1972, the first election when young adults aged 18-20 could vote, 58 percent of young adults aged 18-20 were registered to vote. The proportion registered has not been that high in any presidential election year since. By 1976, the proportion had dropped to 47 percent. Throughout the 1980s, the level went up and down but remained around 45 percent. The proportion registered to vote in the most recent presidential election year of 1992 was the highest since 1972 at 48 percent.

Voter registration does vary by gender, as a greater proportion of females in this age group were registered than males in any presidential election year. (*See* Figure SD 1.4) However, the difference is never more than a few percentage points. Registration also varies by race and ethnicity. Table SD 1.4.b presents the proportion of young adults in 1992 who were registered to vote by race/ethnicity, and gender for 1992. The table indicates that white youth were the most likely to register to vote in 1992 at 51 percent, followed by black youth at 43 percent. Hispanic youth were considerably less like to be registered than either whites or blacks at 23 percent. Only about one in five Hispanic male youth were registered to vote.

#### Figure SD1.4 PERCENT OF PERSONS AGED 18-20 WHO WERE REGISTERED TO VOTE, PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION YEARS 1972-1992



<sup>a</sup>Source: Jennings, J.T. (1993). *Voting and Registration in the Election of November 1992.* Current Population Reports, P20-466, Table 2 and Appendix A Historical Tables

# Table SD 1.4.A PERCENT OF PERSONS AGED 18-20 WHO WERE REGISTERED TO VOTE, BY GENDER, PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION YEARS 1972 - 1992

Percent Registered in Presidential Election of:	1972	1976	1980	1984	1988	1992	
Total	58	47	45	47	45	48	
Male Female	58 58	46 48	44 46	45 49	42 48	47 50	

Source: Jennings, J.T. (1993). *Voting and Registration in the Election of November 1992.* Current Population Reports, P20-466, Table 2 and Appendix A Historical Tables.

# Table SD 1.4.B PERCENT OF PERSONS AGED 18-20 WHO WERE REGISTERED TO VOTE BY RACE/ETHNICITY GROUP: 1992

	Total	Male	Female	
Total	48	47	50	
White	51	49	53	
Black	43	41	44	
Hispanic	23	20	27	

Source: Jennings, J.T. (1993). Voting and Registration in the Election of 1992. Current Population Reports, P-20-466, Table 2.

#### **SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

#### SD 1.5 TV VIEWING HABITS

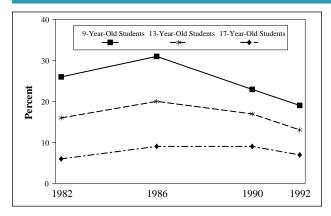
Excessive television watching is negatively related to children's and youths' academic attainment. For example, children and adolescents in grades 4, 8, and 11 who watch six or more hours of television per day have substantially lower scores on a test of writing achievement.<sup>31</sup>

As depicted in Figure SD 1.5, almost one fifth of 9-year-old students (19 percent) watched six or more hours of television each day in 1992. Among 13-year-old students, 13 percent watched six or more hours of television, and only 7 percent of 17-year-olds watched this amount of television each day. For all three age groups, the percentage of students spending six or more hours a day watching television increased between 1982 and 1986, and then declined through 1992. For instance, among 9-year-olds, 26 percent were watching television for long periods each day in 1982; this percentage increased to 31 percent in 1986, and then decreased to 19 percent in 1992.

In general, larger proportions of boys than girls are watching television for long periods of time. This gender difference is particularly notable among the younger children (Table SD 1.5.a). In 1990, 27 percent of boys compared to 20 percent of girls age 9 were watching television for six or more hours per day. A similar pattern is evident for the 13-year-old students (Table SD 1.5.b). In 1990, 18 percent of 13-year-old boys compared to 15 percent of 13-year-old girls were watching television for six or more hours per day. For 17-year-olds on the other hand, the percentages of boys and girls watching television for long periods is nearly the same at 9 percent and 8 percent, respectively, in 1990 (Table SD 1.5.c).

<sup>31</sup>U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. (1988). *Youth indicators 1988: Trends in the well-being of American youth.* Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office





Source: National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 1992 Trend Assessment; and unpublished Trend Almanacs, 1978-1990.

# Table SD 1.5.A PERCENTAGE OF 9- YEAR-OLD STUDENTS WHO WATCH 6 OR MORE HOURS OF TELEVISION PER DAY BY GENDER, RACE/ETHNICITY, AND TYPE OF SCHOOL: 1982 - 1992

	1982	1986	1990	1992	
Total	26	31	23	19	
Gender					
Male	30	34	27	_	
Female	23	27	20	_	
Race/Ethnicity					
White	23	26	18	_	
Black	43	53	47	_	
Hispanic	28	33	26	_	
Type of School					
Public	27	32	24	_	
Private	21	24	18	_	

Source: National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 1992 Trend Assessment; and unpublished Trend Almanacs, 1978-1990.

# Table SD 1.5.B PERCENTAGE OF 13- YEAR-OLD STUDENTS WHO WATCH 6 OR MORE HOURS OF TELEVISION PER DAY BY GENDER, RACE/ETHNICITY, TYPE OF SCHOOL, AND PARENT'S HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION: 1982 - 1992

	1982	1986	1990	1992	
Total	16	20	17	13	
Conder					
Gender	4.0	0.4	4.0		
Male	18	21	18	_	
Female	15	19	15	_	
Race/Ethnicity					
White	13	17	12	_	
Black	32	40	35	_	
Hispanic	19	21	18	_	
Type of School					
Public	13	20	17	_	
Private	17	(*)	11	_	
Parents' Highest Level of Education					
Less than high school	23	32	24	_	
Graduate high school	18	22	19	_	
More than high school	13	18	12	_	
Graduate college	12	15	13	_	
*Too few observations for a reliable estimate.					

Source: National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 1992 Trend Assessment; and unpublished Trend Almanacs, 1978-1990.

#### **SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

#### SD 1.5 TV VIEWING HABITS (continued)

In addition to the gender differences in television viewing habits, there are also notable racial/ethnic group differences. For each age group and for each time point of assessment, larger proportions of Black students than either white or Hispanic students are watching television for six or more hours per day. For example, among 9-year-old students, 47 percent of Black students, compared to 18 percent of white students, and 26 percent of Hispanic students were watching television for long periods of time per day during 1990 (Table SD 1.5.a).

In general, smaller percentages of children and adolescents who attend private school than students who attend public school spend six or more hours per day watching television, although the differences are usually not very large. As noted in Table SD 1.5.a, smaller proportions of 9-year-old private school students than public school students are spending long hours watching television at each year of assessment. In 1990, 24 percent of public school students compared to 18 percent of private school students were watching television for six or more hours per day. Differences in television viewing patterns were similar for 13-year-olds, as depicted in Table SD 1.5.b. For 17-year-olds, although two time points of data are missing, smaller percentages of private school students than public school students were watching television for six or more hours per day in 1978 and in 1982 (4 percent versus 5 percent in 1978; 3 percent versus 7 percent in 1982). (Table SD 1.5.c.)

There are also differences in television viewing habits by parent's highest level of education. Among 13- and 17-year-old students, smaller proportions of children whose parents have graduated from college spend six or more hours per day watching television for nearly all time points of assessment. In 1990, 24 percent of 13-year-olds whose parents had less than a high school education were watching six or more hours of television per day, compared to 19 percent of students with parents who graduated from high school, 12 percent whose parents had more than a high school education, and 13 percent of students whose parents graduated from college. A similar pattern is evident for 17-year-old students in 1982.

# Table SD 1.5.C PERCENTAGE OF 17- YEAR-OLD STUDENTS WHO WATCH 6 OR MORE HOURS OF TELEVISION PER DAY BY GENDER, RACE/ETHNICITY, TYPE OF SCHOOL, AND PARENT'S HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION: 1978 - 1992

	1978	1982	1986	1990	1992
Total	5	6	9	9	7
Gender					
Male	5	7	10	9	_
Female	5	6	8	8	_
Race/Ethnicity					
White	4	5	6	6	_
Black	13	14	22	23	_
Hispanic	7	6	12	8	_
Type of School					
Public	5	7	9	9	_
Private	4	3	(*)	(*)	_
Parents' Highest Level of Education					
Less than high school	8	10	17	11	_
Graduate high school	5	8	10	11	_
More than high school	4	4	9	8	_
Graduate college	3	4	4	5	_
*Too few observations for a reliable estimate.					

Source: National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 1992 Trend Assessment; and unpublished Trend Almanacs, 1978-1990.

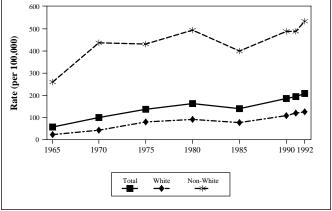
#### SD 1.6 YOUTH VIOLENT CRIME ARREST RATES 32

Figure SD 1.6 presents national estimates of the rate (per 100,000) of youth arrests for violent crimes from 1965 through 1992. Violent crimes include murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. The estimates represent rates of arrest based on the entire child population under age 18. Rates have increased by more than three and one half times between 1965 and 1992 from 58 to 209 per 100,000. The increase has been fairly constant over time, except for a short-lived reduction in rates between 1980 and 1985. Rates have increased for both white and nonwhite youth during this period. In 1992 rates of arrest for violent crimes for whites were 126 compared to 534 per 100,000 for non-whites.

Table SD 1.6 presents these rates for individual years of age between 13 and 18 rather than for all persons under age 18, and separately for men and women. Between 1965 and 1992, arrest rates for violent crime increased for both males and females. For example, among females age 18 rates increased from 37 to 197 per 100,000. For 18 year old males, the rates increased from 638 to 1944 per 100,000, or to about two arrests per one hundred 18 year old males by 1992. Among males, arrest rates for violent crime climb quickly and steadily with age from 681 among 13-14 year olds to 1944 among 18 year olds in 1992. By contrast, the rates for young women do not increase uniformly or rapidly with age, climbing from 145 per 100,000 at ages 13-14 to 217 per 100,000 by age 16, then decreasing somewhat to 197 per 100,000 by age 18 in 1992.

<sup>32</sup>Arrests for violent crimes were chosen in preference to other arrest measures as an indicator both because of the particular hazards that violent crime represent to our society, and because arrests for violent crimes are less likely to be affected over time by changes in police practice and policy than other types of crime.

Figure SD 1.6 VIOLENT CRIME ARREST RATE FOR YOUTHS UNDER AGE 18: 1965 - 1992 (Rate per 100,000)



Note: Violent crimes include murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Rates refer to the number of arrests made per 100,000 inhabitants belonging to the prescribed age group.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Program, Federal Bureau of Investigation (December, 1993). *Age-Specific Arrest Rates and Race-Specific Arrest Rates for Selected Offenses, 1965-1992.* U.S. Department of Justice.

Table SD 1.6 ARREST RATES FOR VIOLENT CRIMES BY YOUTH UNDER AGE 18, 1965 - 1992 (per 100,000) Total Race/Ethnicity White Non-white Age 13-14 Gender Male 13-14 Female 13-14 

Note: Violent Crime is the sum of murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Rates refer to the number of arrests made per 100,000 inhabitants belonging to the prescribed age group.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Program, Federal Bureau of Investigation (December, 1993). *Age-Specific Arrest Rates and Race-Specific Arrest Rates for Selected Offenses, 1965-1992.* pp. 12-17 & p. 181. U.S. Department of Justice.

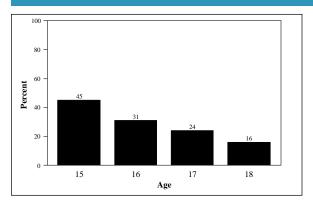
#### **SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

#### SD 1.7 LOW-RISK TEENS: CUMULATIVE RISK INDEX

Statistics often show rates of specific problem behaviors among adolescents such as drug or alcohol use, school drop out, or early sexual activity. However, most parents and other members of society believe that the ideal is for youth to avoid all of these risk behaviors. The cumulative risk index is designed to identify the degree to which adolescents avoid a set of key problem behaviors simultaneously. This measure is created from youth-report data for five behaviors, where a youth is defined as having no risks if he or she is in school or has graduated from high school, has never had sexual intercourse, has never used illegal drugs, has not had 5 or more alcoholic beverages in a row in the past month, and has not stayed out all night without permission in the past year. Although some of these behaviors may be acceptable to society when adolescents become adults, through age 18 each can be considered a risk.

The proportion of youth who report avoiding all of these risk behaviors is shown in Figure SD 1.7 for 1992 by single year of age. Table SD 1.7 presents additional data on the percentage who report only one risk, and two or more risk behaviors. Even at age 15, less than half (45 percent) have avoided all risk behaviors, and 30 percent have experienced two or more risks. By age 17, an age at which most youth are still in high school, the proportion with no risks has dwindled to less than one-quarter and the majority have now experienced two or more risk behaviors. By age 18, only 16 percent report having engaged in no risk behaviors, while 62 percent report two or more such behaviors.

Figure SD 1.7 PERCENTAGE OF YOUTH WITH NO RISKS ON CUMULATIVE RISK MEASURE, BY AGE: 1992



Note: Status of having no risks requires all of the following: being in school or graduated from high school, never having had sexual intercourse; never having used illegal drugs (includes marijuana), not having had 5 alcoholic beverages in a row in the past month; and not having stayed out all night without permission in the past year.

Source:1992 National Health Interview Survey — Youth Risk Behavior Supplement, tabulations by Child Trends, Inc., weighted analyses.

# Table SD 1.7 PERCENT OF YOUTH WITH NO, ONE, AND TWO OR MORE RISKS ON CUMULATIVE RISK MEASURE<sup>a</sup> by Age: 1992

			Ag	е	
		15	16	17	18
No Risks 45 31 24 16	Cumulative Risk Measure				
10 11313	No Risks	45	31	24	16
Only One Risk 25 24 26 22	Only One Risk	25	24	26	22
Two or More Risks 30 45 50 62	Two or More Risks	30	45	50	62

Note: <sup>a</sup> A status of having no risks requires all of the following: being in school or graduated from high school; never having had sexual intercourse; never having used illegal drugs (includes marijuana); not having had 5 alcoholic beverages in a row in the past month; and not having stayed out all night without permission in the past year.

 $Source: 1992 \ National \ Health \ Interview \ Survey -- Youth \ Risk \ Behavior \ Supplement, \ tabulations \ by \ Child \ Trends, \ Inc., \ weighted \ analyses.$ 

#### PHYSICAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

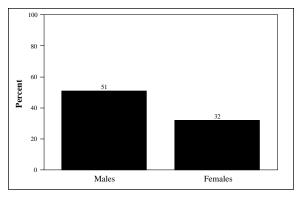
#### SD 2.1 PHYSICAL FIGHTING BY YOUTH

Physical violence is a major cause of injury and homicide among adolescents.<sup>33</sup> Figure SD 2.1 presents data for 1993 indicating the percentage of male and female high school students who, by their own report, have been in a physical fight during the previous year. The data indicate that physical violence among youth is disturbingly common, with slightly over one half of all male students and nearly a third of female students reporting having been in a physical fight during that time.

Data presented in Table SD 2.1 indicate that the percentage of students who report being involved in fights decreases with age from 50 percent among ninth grade students down to 35 percent among twelfth grade students. It is unclear, however, whether this reduction reflects the effects of increasing maturity, a change in the propensity to report having been in a fight, or a tendency for violence-prone youth to drop out of school, leaving a less violent pool of students in the higher grades. Finally, white students appear somewhat less likely than black students to engage in physical fights (40 percent versus 50 percent).

33University of California at Los Angeles, CDC. "The Epidemiology of Homicide in Los Angeles, 1970-79." Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, CDC, 1985. Cited in Chronic Disease and Health Promotion, Reprints from the MMWR: 1990-1991 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System. Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, CDC, 1992. P. 37.

Figure SD 2.1 PERCENT OF STUDENTS IN GRADES 9-12 WHO REPORT HAVING BEEN IN A Physical fight in the last year: 1993



Source:Data for 1993 from *Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance - United States 1993*, Vol. 44, No. SS-1.

# Table SD 2.1 PERCENT OF STUDENTS IN GRADES 9-12 WHO REPORT THAT THEY HAVE BEEN IN A PHYSICAL FIGHT WITHIN THE LAST YEAR: 1993

	1993	
Total	42	
Male	51	
Female	32	
Grade		
9	50	
10	42	
11	41	
12	35	
Race/Ethnic Group		
White, non-Hispanic	40	
Black, non-Hispanic	50	
Hispanic	43	

Sources: Data for 1993 from Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance - United States 1993, Vol. 44, No. SS-1.

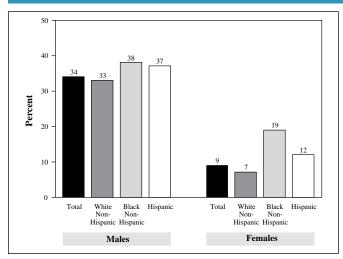
#### PHYSICAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

#### SD 2.2 WEAPONS CARRYING AMONG HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Figure SD 2.2.a presents national estimates of the rate of weapons-carrying among high school students in 1993. The data refer to the percentage of students who report having carried a weapon at least once during the previous 30 days. Weapons include knives, razors, clubs, or firearms. The figure shows that weapons carrying is disturbingly common, with over one third (34 percent) of male students and nearly one in ten (9 percent) female students reporting that they have carried a weapon within the previous month. Among male youth, whites, blacks, and Hispanics report similar rates of weapons carrying. Among female youth, however, blacks appear to be the most likely to report carrying a weapon (19 percent), followed by Hispanics (12 percent) and then whites (7 percent).

Figure SD 2.2.b presents national estimates of the percentage of high school students who have carried a gun within the last month. Overall, 14 percent, or approximately one in seven, male students in grades nine through twelve report having carried a gun within the last month. Reported gun carrying among females is much lower at 2 percent. Across race/ethnic groups, the percentage of males who report having carried a gun within the previous month ranged from 12 percent for white youth to 21 percent for black youth, with Hispanic youth at 17 percent.

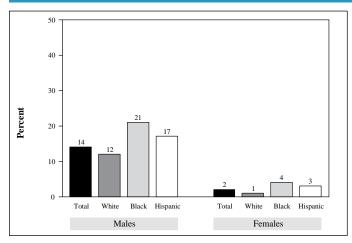
Figure SD 2.2.A WEAPONS: PERCENT OF TEENS IN GRADES 9-12 WHO REPORT HAVING CARRIED A WEAPON WITHIN THE LAST 30 DAYS: 1993



Note: Weapons included knives, razors, clubs, and firearms (including handguns).

Sources: Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance - United States 1993, Vol. 44, No. SS-1. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Figure SD 2.2.B GUNS: PERCENT OF TEENS IN GRADES 9-12 WHO REPORT HAVING CARRIED A GUN WITHIN THE LAST 30 DAYS: 1993



Note: Percentages reflect those who carried a gun during the 30 days preceding the survey.

Source: Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance - United States, 1993, Volume 44, No. 55-1. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

#### PHYSICAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

# Table SD 2.2.A PERCENT OF STUDENTS IN GRADE 9-12 WHO REPORT HAVING CARRIED A WEAPON<sup>a</sup> at least once within the last month: 1991 and 1993

	1991	1991			1993		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	
Total	26	41	11	22	34	9	
Grade							
9	28	_	_	26	39	11	
10	27	_	_	21	33	10	
11	29	_	_	22	33	9	
12	21	_	_	20	33	7	
Race/Ethnicity Group							
White, non-Hispanic	25	_	_	21	33	7	
Black, non-Hispanic	33	_	_	29	38	19	
Hispanic	26	_		24	37	12	

Note: aWeapons included knives, razors, clubs, and firearms (including handguns).

Source: Data for 1991 from Public Health Reports, Vol. 108, Supplement 1, U.S. Public Health Service. Data for 1993 from *Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance - United States 1993*, Vol. 44, SS-1, U.S. Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Table SD 2.2.B PERCENT OF TEENS IN GRADES 9-12 WHO REPORT HAVING CARRIED A GUN WITHIN THE LAST 30 DAYS, 1993

	Total	Male	Female	
Total	8	14	2	
Grade				
9	9	16	2	
10	9	15	2	
11	7	13	1	
12	7	12	1	
Race/Ethnic Group				
White non-Hispanic	7	12	1	
Black non-Hispanic	12	21	4	
Hispanic	10	17	3	

Note: Percentages reflect those who carried a gun more often than other weapons.

Source: Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance - United States 1993, Volume 44, No. 55-1, U.S. Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

#### PHYSICAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

#### SD 2.3 SEAT BELT USE

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that, in 1993, 55 percent of all children under age five who were killed while occupants of a motor vehicle were not protected by seat belts.<sup>34</sup> Further, among youth ages 15-19, motor vehicle deaths were the leading cause of death in 1992, accounting for one third of all fatalities in that age group.

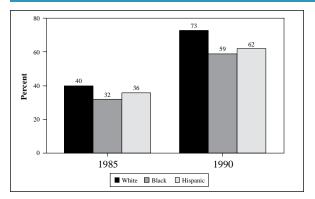
Figure SD 2.3 presents data for 1985 and 1990 on the percent of white, black, and Hispanic children ages 5-17 who were reported to wear seat belts all or most of the time. The data indicate a clear and dramatic increase in regular seat belt use among these children during that five year period from 40 to 73 percent among whites, from 32 to 59 percent among blacks, and from 36 to 62 percent among Hispanics.

Among children ages 0-4, both white and black children experienced increased rates of regular seat belt use during that same period, though the gains have been less dramatic: from 84 to 88 percent among white children, and from 67 to 79 percent among black children. (*See* Table SD 2.3) Only Hispanic children below the age of five appear to have lost some ground, with rates of regular seat belt use decreasing from 73 percent to 71 percent between 1985 and 1990.

Table SD 2.3 includes data with more refined age categories including less than 1 year of age, 1-4 years, 5-9 years, 10-14 years, and 15-17 years. Rates of regular seat belt use decreased substantially with age in both 1985 and 1990, though the differences were less pronounced in the more recent year. In 1990, age-specific rates of regular seat belt use were as follows: 93 percent for children under the age of one; 87 percent for ages 1-4: 76 percent for ages 5-9; 67 percent for ages 10-14; and 68 percent among youth ages 15-17.

 $^{34}$ National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. 1994. Traffic Safety Facts 1993. DOT HS 808 169. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Transportation.

Figure SD 2.3 SEAT BELT USE: PERCENT OF CHILDREN AGES 5-17 WHO ARE REPORTED TO HAVE WORN SEAT BELTS ALL OR MOST OF THE TIME: 1985 AND 1990



Sources: National Health Interview Survey data were published in *Vital and Health Statistics* Series 10: No. 185, Health Promotion and Disease Prevention United States, 1990; and Series 10: No. 163 Health Promotion and Disease Prevention United States, 1985.

Table SD 2.3 PERCENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH WHO ARE REPORTED TO HAVE WORN SEAT BELTS ALL OR MOST OF THE TIME : 1985 AND 1990

	1985	1990
Children by Age:		
<1 year	92	93
1-4 years	82	87
5-9 years	49	76
10-14 years	33	67
15-17	31	68
White		
Ages 0-4	84	88
Ages 5-17	40	73
Black		
Ages 0-4	67	79
Ages 5-17	32	59
Hispanic		
Ages 0-4	73	71
Ages 5-17	36	62

Sources: National Health Interview Survey data were published in Vital and Health Statistics Series 10: No. 185, Health Promotion and Disease Prevention United States, 1990; and Series 10: No. 163 Health Promotion and Disease Prevention United States, 1985.

#### PHYSICAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

#### SD 2.4 REGULAR PHYSICAL EXERCISE

Vigorous physical activity is associated with a wide range of positive health outcomes for children and youth including reduced rates of obesity and hypertension. Further, habits of physical exercise formed in childhood can carry into adulthood producing life-long health benefits. <sup>35</sup> According to the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance, nationwide only about half of all students in grades 9 through 12 are enrolled in a physical education class in school, and only about one third attend a physical education class daily.

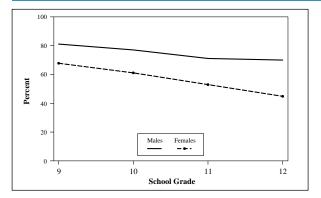
Table SD 2.4.a shows the percent of high school seniors from 1976 through 1994 who reported participating in sports or exercising "almost every day." The percentage has remained remarkably constant during that period, varying between 44 percent and 48 percent. Only among black youth do the rates of physical exercise appear to have changed substantially, dropping from a high of 53 percent in 1981 down to 39 percent in 1994.

Table SD 2.4.b presents 1993 data on the percentage of youth in grades nine through twelve who reported that they exercised vigorously three or more times per week. <sup>36</sup> These data demonstrate that males are considerably more likely than females to exercise vigorously (75 percent versus 56 percent). In addition, they show that the percent of youth who report exercising vigorously drops off between grades nine and twelve, dropping by 11 percentage points for males (81 percent to 70 percent) and by 23 percentage points for females (68 percent to 45 percent). (See also Figure SD 2.4). Finally, white students appear to be more likely than black and Hispanic students to exercise vigorously (68 percent versus 60 percent and 59 percent, respectively).

<sup>35</sup>Chronic Diseases and Health Promotion, Reprints from the MMWR: 1990-1991 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service. p. 33.

<sup>36</sup>Vigorous exercise" is defined as activities that caused sweating and hard breathing for at least 20 minutes.

Figure SD 2.4 PERCENT OF 9TH-12TH GRADERS WHO REPORT HAVING EXERCISED VIGOROUSLY 3 OR MORE TIMES IN THE PAST 7 DAYS: VARIATIONS BY GENDER AND SCHOOL GRADE, 1993



Source: Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance-United States 1993, Volume 44, No. SS-1.

## Table SD 2.4.A PERCENT OF HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS WHO REPORT THEY ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN SPORTS OR EXERCISING "ALMOST EVERY DAY", 1976 - 1994

Actively participate in sports or exercising	1976	1981	1986	1991	1992	1993	1994
Total	44	48	44	46	46	44	45
Gender							
Male	52	56	54	55	59	55	56
Female	36	39	36	36	33	33	36
Race/Ethnicity							
White	43	47	46	48	48	46	49
Black	49	53	43	43	41	39	39

Source: Bachman, J. G. , Johnston, L. D. & O'Malley, P. M. "Monitoring the Future: Questionnaire Responses from the Nations' High School Seniors" 1992, 1994 Questionnaire Form 2 number A02H in each report.

Johnston, L. D., Bachman, J. G.& O'Malley, P. M. "Monitoring the Future: Questionnaire Responses from the Nations' High School Seniors" 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1993 Questionnaire Form 2 number A02H in each report.

### Table SD 2.4.B PERCENT OF TEENS IN GRADES 9-12 WHO REPORT HAVING EXERCISED VIGOROUSLY 3 OR MORE TIMES IN THE PAST 7 DAYS, 1993

	Total	Male	Female
Total	66	75	56
Grade			
9	75	81	68
10	70	77	61
11	63	71	53
12	58	70	45
Race/Ethnic Group			
White, Non-Hispanic	68	76	59
Black, Non-Hispanic	60	71	49
Hispanic	59	69	50

Note: Vigorous physical exercise is defined as activities that caused sweating and hard breathing for at least 20 minutes.

Source: Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance - United States 1993, Volume 44, No. SS-1.

#### SMOKING, ALCOHOL, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

#### SD 3.1 CIGARETTE SMOKING AMONG YOUTH

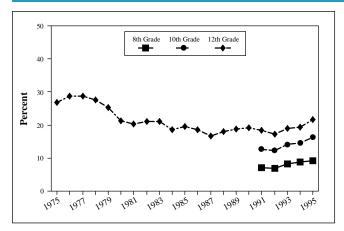
Cigarette smoking is the single most preventable cause of death in the United States. It has been estimated that one in five deaths is caused by tobacco use. $^{37}$ 

Figure SD 3.1 and Table SD 3.1.a present trends in the percent of eighth, tenth, and twelfth grade students who reported smoking cigarettes daily. Prevalence of daily smoking decreased sharply in the late 1970s for twelfth graders, flattened off beginning in the early 1980s, and has recently begun to increase. Between 1992 and 1995, rates increased from 17.2 percent to 21.6 percent. Data for eighth and tenth grade students, available from 1991 through 1995, also show a recent increase in the percent who reported smoking daily from 7.2 percent to 9.3 percent among eighth graders, and from 12.6 percent to 16.3 percent among tenth graders.

Table SD 3.1.b presents data from a separate data source, which provides a different way of looking at smoking and which furnishes estimates by gender and race/ethnicity. These data provide the percent of students in grades nine through twelve who report "current" and "frequent" smoking. <sup>38</sup> Data for 1993 indicate that male and female youth were equally likely to smoke, with 14 percent in both groups reporting that they smoked frequently. Substantial differences existed, however, across race/ethnicity groups. In 1993, 16 percent of white, non-Hispanic youth reported smoking frequently, compared to 5 percent of black, non-Hispanic youth and 8 percent of Hispanic youth. Current cigarette use (i.e., smoking on one or more of the previous 30 days) is higher for all groups: 34 percent for white, non-Hispanics, 15 percent for black, non-Hispanics, and 29 percent for Hispanics.

<sup>37</sup>Centers for Disease Control. Cigarette Smoking-Attributable Mortality and Years of Potential
 Life Lost—United States, 1990. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report 1993; 42:645-9.
 <sup>38</sup>Current smoking means smoking on one or more of the previous 30 days. Frequent smoking means smoking on 20 or more of the previous 30 days.

## Figure SD 3.1 PERCENT OF 8TH, 10TH, AND 12TH GRADE STUDENTS WHO REPORT SMOKING CIGARETTES DAILY: 1975 - 1994



Source: Johnston, L.D., O'Malley, P.M. and Bachman, J.G. *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-1994*, Volume 1, Secondary School Students. Rockville, Maryland; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, National Institutes of Health, National Institute on Drug Abuse, NIH Pub. No 95-4026, 1995, and unpublished tables, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan.

Table SD 3.1.A CIGARETTE SMOKING: PERCENT OF 8TH, 10TH, AND 12TH GRADE STUDENTS WHO REPORT SMOKING CIGARETTES DAILY

	1975	1980	1985	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
8th Grade					7.2	7.0	8.3	8.8	9.3
10th Grade					12.6	12.3	14.2	14.6	16.3
12th Grade	26.9	21.3	19.5	19.1	18.5	17.2	19.0	19.4	21.6

Source: Johnston, L.D., O'Malley, P.M. and Bachman, J.G. *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-1994*, Volume 1, Secondary School Students. Rockville, Maryland; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, National Institutes of Health, National Institute on Drug Abuse, NIH Pub. No 95-4026, 1995, and unpublished tables, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan.

Table SD 3.1.B CIGARETTE SMOKING: PERCENT OF STUDENTS IN GRADES 9-12 WHO REPORT CURRENT SMOKING AND FREQUENT SMOKING

	Current Smoking		Frequent	Smoking
	1991	1993	1991	1993
Total	28	31	13	14
Male	28	30	12	14
Female	27	31	12	14
White Non-Hispanic	31	34	15	16
Male	30	32	15	16
Female	32	35	16	16
Black Non-Hispanic	13	15	3	5
Male	14	16	5	5
Female	11	14	2	4
Hispanic	25	29	7	8
Male	28	30	8	9
Female	23	27	6	7
Grade				
9th Grade	23	28	8	9
10th Grade	25	28	11	13
11th Grade	32	31	16	15
12th Grade	31	35	16	18

Note: Current smoking means smoking on one or more of the previous 30 days. Frequent smoking means smoking on 20 or more of the previous 30 days.

Source: Data for 1991 from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, *Preventing Tobacco Use Among Young People, A Report of the Surgeon General.* U.S. Public Health Service, 1994. Data for 1993 from "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance-United States 1993," *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, Vol. 44, No. SS-1, 1995.

#### SMOKING, ALCOHOL, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

#### SD 3.2 SMOKELESS TOBACCO USE AMONG TEENS IN GRADES 9-12.

The use of smokeless tobacco (*i.e.* snuff, chewing tobacco) has been associated with substantially higher risk for developing oral cancer.<sup>39</sup>

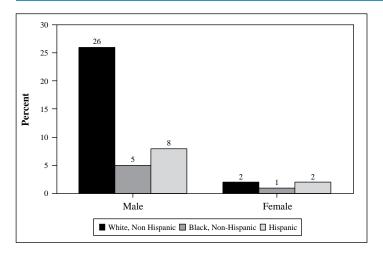
Table SD 3.2 shows the percent of teens in grades 9-12 who reported using some form of smokeless tobacco one or more times in the previous 30 days. The data indicate that the percent reporting smokeless tobacco use was 10 percent in 1991 and 12 percent in 1993.<sup>40</sup> Unlike cigarettes, smokeless tobacco is much more common among males, with 20 percent of males and 2 percent of females reporting smokeless tobacco use in 1993.

The use of smokeless tobacco is most prevalent among white, non-Hispanic male youth, with over one quarter (26 percent) in 1993 reporting having used smokeless tobacco one or more times in the previous 30 days, compared to 8 percent of Hispanic male youth and 5 percent of black, non-Hispanic male youth. (*See* Figure SD 3.2) Rates of reported use among female youth never exceed 2 percent for any race/ethnicity group.

<sup>39</sup>Public Health Service. 1986. *The Health Consequences of Using Smokeless Tobacco*. A Report to the Surgeon General. DHHS Pub. No. (NIH) 86-2874. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

<sup>40</sup>Data for 1991 from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, *Preventing Tobacco Use Among Young People, A Report of the Surgeon General.* U.S. Public Health Service, 1994. Data for 1993 from "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance-United States 1993," *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, Vol. 44, No. SS-1, 1995. Another federal survey, the National Household Survey of Drug Abuse, shows a declining trend in the use of smokeless tobacco among all male youth ages 12-17, with rates declining from 6.6 percent in 1988 to 4.8 percent in 1992 and 3.9 percent in 1993. See National Center for Health Statistics, 1995. *Healthy People 2000 Review*, 1994 Hyatts-ville, MD: Public Health Service. Caution should be exercised in making comparisons between the two surveys because the age ranges and the methods of administering the surveys differ.

Figure SD 3.2 SMOKELESS TOBACCO: THE PERCENT OF YOUTH IN GRADES 9-12 WHO REPORT HAVING USED SMOKELESS TOBACCO DURING THE PREVIOUS 30 DAYS: 1993



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1995. "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance - United States, 1993." *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, Vol. 44, No. SS-1.

# Table SD 3.2 SMOKELESS TOBACCO: THE PERCENT OF YOUTH IN GRADES 9-12 WHO REPORT HAVING USED SMOKELESS TOBACCO DURING THE PREVIOUS 30 DAYS

		1991			1993			
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female		
Total	10	19	1	12	20	2		
Race/Ethnicity								
White, non-Hispanic	13	24	1	15	26	2		
Black, non-Hispanic	2	4	1	3	5	1		
Hispanic	6	11	1	5	8	2		

Source: Data for 1991 from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, *Preventing Tobacco Use Among Young People, A Report of the Surgeon General.* U.S. Public Health Service, 1994. Data for 1993 from "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance-United States 1993," *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, Vol. 44, No. SS-1, 1995.

#### SMOKING, ALCOHOL, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

#### SD 3.3 BINGE DRINKING AMONG YOUTH

Binge drinking among adolescents has been linked to a host of problems including motor vehicle crashes and deaths, difficulties in school and the workplace, fighting, and breaking the law.<sup>41</sup> Table 3.3.A reports the percentage of students in the 8th, 10th, and 12th grade who report having taken five or more drinks in a row within the previous two weeks<sup>42</sup>. Data are available from 1975 for 12th grade students, and from 1991 for 8th and 10th grade students. Among 12th grade students, rates of binge drinking fell from a high of 41.2 percent in 1980 to 27.5 percent in 1993 (*See* also Figure SD 3.5). Between 1993 and 1995, rates have edged up modestly to 29.8 percent.

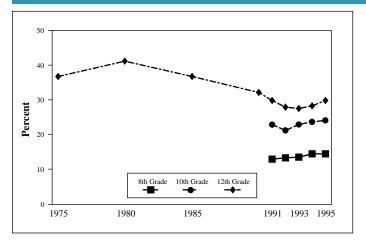
Among 8th grade students, reported binge drinking has risen from 12.9 percent in 1991 (the first year for which data were available) to 14.5 percent in 1995. During the same time period rates increased slightly from 22.9 percent to 24.0 percent among 10th grade students.

Table SD 3.5.B presents separate estimates of reported binge drinking for white, black, and Hispanic students in the 8th, 10th, and 12th grades. Data from 1993 and 1994 were combined to produce a single, stable set of estimates for these population subgroups. Among white students, reported rates of binge drinking increase substantially from 12.9 percent in 8th grade to 31.5 percent in 12th grade. Hispanic students reported the highest rates of binge drinking in the 8th grade at 22.3 percent. By 12th grade, however, their rates increased only slightly to 24.3 percent, well below that of white students. Black students consistently reported the lowest levels of binge drinking with rates ranging from 11.8 percent in 8th grade to 14.4 percent in 12th grade.

<sup>41</sup>National Institute on Drug Abuse. *National Trends in Drug Use and Related Factors Among American High School Students and Young Adults, 1976-1986.* DHHS Pub. No. (ADM)87-1535. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 1987.

<sup>42</sup>These percentages underestimate the rate of binge drinking among all youth, since school age youth who are not in school are somewhat more likely to binge drink that those in school. (Based on unpublished analyses, National Health Interview Survey 1992, by Child Trends, Inc.)

Figure SD 3.3 BINGE DRINKING: PERCENT OF 8TH, 10TH, AND 12TH GRADE STUDENTS WHO REPORTED HAVING HAD FIVE OR MORE DRINKS IN A ROW IN THE PREVIOUS TWO WEEKS:



Source: Data are from the Monitoring The Future Surveys, as reported in "Drug Use Rise Again in 1995 Among American Teens". press release December 11, 1995, University of Michigan.

## Table SD 3.3.A BINGE DRINKING: PERCENT OF 8TH, 10TH, AND 12TH GRADE STUDENTS WHO REPORTED HAVING HAD FIVE OR MORE DRINKS IN A ROW IN THE PREVIOUS TWO WEEKS: 1975 - 1995

	1975	1980	1985	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
8th Grade					12.9	13.4	13.5	14.5	14.5
10th Grade					22.9	21.1	23.0	23.6	24.0
12th Grade	36.8	41.2	36.7	32.2	29.8	27.9	27.5	28.2	29.8

Source: Data are from the Monitoring The Future Surveys, as reported in "Drug Use Rise Again in 1995 Among American Teens". press release December 11, 1995, University of Michigan.

# Table SD 3.3.B BINGE DRINKING: PERCENT OF 8TH, 10TH, AND 12TH GRADE STUDENTS WHO REPORTED HAVING HAD FIVE OR MORE DRINKS IN A ROW IN THE PREVIOUS TWO WEEKS: VARIATIONS BY RACE/ETHNICITY GROUP, 1993 - 1994 (combined)

	8th Grade	10th Grade	12th Grade
White	12.9	24.5	31.5
Black	11.8	14.0	14.4
Hispanic	22.3	24.2	24.3

Note: Data from 1993 and 1994 surveys were combined to increase subgroup sample sizes.

Source: Johnston, L.D., O'Malley, P.M., and Bachman, J.G. 1995. National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-1994. Volume I, Secondary School Students. National Institute on Drug Abuse, Rockville, MD.

#### SMOKING, ALCOHOL, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

#### SD 3.4 EXPOSURE TO DRUNK DRIVING

Automobile accidents are a major cause of death among teens ages 15 and older, and studies indicate that about 30 percent of drivers ages 15-20 who were involved in fatal crashes were alcohol involved.  $^{43}$  Further, as of 1991 nearly one half of all fatal crashes were alcohol-related.

Table SD 3.4 shows 1991 estimates of the percentage of students in grades 9 through 12 who report having driven drunk or ridden with a drunk driver within the last 30 days. The data reveal that a large proportion of youth are at-risk, with 42 percent of all teens reporting having ridden with a drunk driver or driven drunk during the previous month. Further, teens exhibit high rates of this dangerous behavior regardless of gender, grade, or race-ethnicity group. Males and females are virtually equally as likely to report such activity at 44 percent and 41 percent, respectively. Exposure to drunk driving rises steadily with age starting at a surprisingly high 36 percent in grade nine, and rising to 49 percent among twelfth grade students. Finally, the percentage of teens who report having driven drunk or ridden with a drunk driver within the last 30 days is lowest among black non-Hispanic students at 38 percent, followed by white non-Hispanic students at 43 percent and Hispanic students at 49 percent.

<sup>43</sup>"Factors Potentially Associated with Reductions in Alcohol-related Traffic Fatalities - United States, 1990 and 1991." *MMWR Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 41: 893-899, December 4, 1993. Cited in Waxweiler, R.J., Harel, Y., and O'Carroll, P.W. 1993. "Measuring Adolescent Behaviors Related to Unintentional Injuries." In *Public Health Reports, Journal of the U.S. Public Health Service*, Volume 108, Supplement 1, 1993.

# Table SD 3.4 DRUNK DRIVING: PERCENT OF TEENS IN GRADES 9-12 WHO REPORT HAVING DRIVEN DRUNK OR WITH A DRUNK DRIVER WITHIN THE LAST 30 DAYS: 1991

42	
44	
41	
36	
39	
45	
49	
43	
38	
49	
	44 41 36 39 45 49

Source: Youth Risk Behavior Surveys, 1991, calculations by Child Trends, Inc.

#### SMOKING, ALCOHOL, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

#### SD 3.5 DRUG USE AMONG ADOLESCENTS: MARIJUANA AND COCAINE

The use of cocaine has been linked with numerous health problems ranging from eating disorders to disability and even death from heart attack and stroke.  $^{45}$  New research has confirmed a number of health and cognitive risks associated with marijuana as well.  $^{46}$ 

Table SD 3.5.A reports trends in marijuana (or hashish) and cocaine use among 8th, 10th, and 12th grade students. Data are available from 1975 for 12th grade students, and from 1991 for 8th and 10th grade students. Among 12th grade students, the proportion who report having used marijuana during the previous 30 days decreased from a high of 33.7 percent in 1980 to a low of 11.9 percent in 1992 (*See* also Figure 3.5). Beginning in 1992, rates have risen reach year reaching 21.2 percent in 1995.

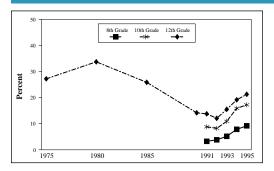
Reported marijuana (or hashish) use among 8th and 10th grade students has also increased. Between 1991 and 1995, rates increased from 3.2 percent to 9.1 percent among 8th grade students and from 8.7 percent to 17.2 percent among 10th grade students.

The proportion of 12th grade students who report having used cocaine during the previous 30 days increased from 1.9 percent to 6.7 percent between 1975 and 1985, and then dropped to 1.3 percent in 1992. Beginning in 1992, it has increased slightly from 1.3 percent to 1.8 percent in 1995. Rates of reported use also increased slightly among those in the earlier grades, from 0.5 percent in 1991 to 1.2 percent in 1995 among 8th grade students, and from 0.7 in 1991 to 1.7 percent in 1995 among 10th grade students.

Table SD 3.5.B presents separate estimates of reported marijuana and cocaine use for white, black, and Hispanic students in the 8th, 10th, and 12th grades. Data from 1993 and 1994 were combined to produce a single, stable set of estimates for these population subgroups. In the 8th and 10th grades, reported marijuana use is highest among Hispanics. In 12th grade, whites have higher rates of reported marijuana use than Hispanics. Reported cocaine use was highest among Hispanic students and lowest among black students in all three grades.

<sup>45</sup>Blanken, A.J. 1993. "Measuring Use of Alcohol and Other Drugs Among Adolescents." In *Public Health Reports, Journal of the U.S. Public Health Service*, Volume 108, Supplement 1, 1993. <sup>46</sup>See, for example, "Marijuana: Facts Parents Need to Know," National Institute on Drug Abuse, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, NCADI Publication No., PHD712, 1995, and Pope.Harrison G. Jr., and Deborah Yurgelun-Todd, "The Residual Cognitive Effects of Heavy Marijuana Use in College Students," JAMA. Feb. 21, 1996, Vol. 275, No. 7.

Figure SD 3.5 PERCENT OF 8TH, 10TH, AND 12TH GRADE STUDENTS WHO REPORTED HAVING USED MARIJUANA <u>within the previous 30 d</u>ays: 1975 - 1995



Source: Data are from the Monitoring The Future Surveys, as reported in "Drug Use Rise Again in 1995 Among American Teens," press release December 4, 1995, University of Michigan.

Table SD 3.5.A PERCENT OF 8TH, 10TH, AND 12TH GRADE STUDENTS WHO REPORTED HAVING USED MARIJUANA OR COCAINE WITHIN THE PREVIOUS 30 DAYS: 1975 - 1995

	1975	1980	1985	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Marijuana/Hashish									
8th					3.2	3.7	5.1	7.8	9.1
10th					8.7	8.1	10.9	15.8	17.2
12th	27.1	33.7	25.7	14.0	13.8	11.9	15.5	19.0	21.2
Cocaine									
8th					0.5	0.7	0.7	1.0	1.2
10th					0.7	0.7	0.9	1.2	1.7
12th	1.9	5.2	6.7	1.9	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.8

Source: Data are from the Monitoring The Future Surveys, as reported in "Drug Use Rise Again in 1995 Among American Teens," press release December 4, 1995, University of Michigan.

## Table SD 3.5.B PERCENT OF 8TH, 10TH, AND 12TH GRADE STUDENTS WHO REPORTED USING MARIJUANA OR COCAINE WITHIN THE PREVIOUS 30 DAYS: VARIATIONS BY RACE/ETHNICITY GROUP, 1993 - 1994 (combined)

	8th Grade	10th Grade	12th Grade
Marijuana/Hashish			
White	5.6	13.4	18.4
Black	5.0	9.8	13.1
Hispanic	12.1	15.6	14.9
Cocaine			
White	0.7	0.9	1.3
Black	0.3	0.6	0.5
Hispanic	2.2	1.8	2.3

Note: Data from 1993 and 1994 surveys were combined to increase subgroup sample sizes.

Source: Johnston, L.D., O'Malley, P.M., and Buchman, J.G. 1995. National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-1994. Volume I, Secondary School Students. National Institute on Drug Abuse, Rockville, MD.

#### SMOKING, ALCOHOL, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

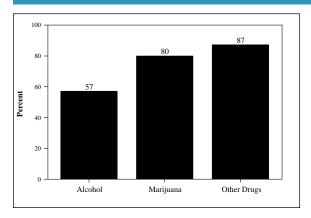
#### SD 3.6 PEER ATTITUDES TOWARDS ALCOHOL, MARIJUANA, AND OTHER DRUGS

As children reach adolescence, peer influences on personal behavior can take on increasing importance. Figure SD 3.6.a indicates the percentage of students in grades 6-12 in 1993 who report peer disapproval of alcohol, marijuana, and other drug use. For each of these drugs, a majority of students reported that peers did not approve of their use. Disapproval rates ranged from 57 percent for alcohol to 80 percent for marijuana and 87 percent for other drugs.

Table SD 3.6 reports rates of peer disapproval for using various type of drugs for selected population subgroups. Rates of reported peer disapproval are similar across gender, race/ethnicity, and poverty status subgroups, never differing by more than a few percentage points. Students who have had drug/alcohol education within the past year report somewhat higher rates of peer disapproval for the use of marijuana and other drugs than those who did not receive such education, though the differences are small, never exceeding five percentage points.

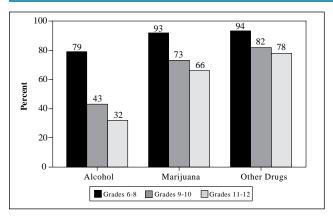
The largest contrasts in reported rates of peer disapproval are between younger and older students, with younger students far more likely to report peer disapproval of all drugs. (*See* Figure SD 3.6.b) For example, among sixth through eighth graders, 79 percent report that their peers disapprove of drinking alcohol. This declines to 32 percent, or less than one third, among eleventh and twelfth grade students. Peer disapproval rates for these two groups are 93 percent and 66 percent for marijuana use, and 94 and 78 percent regarding the use of other drugs.

Figure SD 3.6.A PERCENT OF STUDENTS IN GRADES 6-12 REPORTING PEER DISAPPROVAL OF ALCOHOL, MARIJUANA, AND OTHER DRUGS



Source: Vaden-Kiernan, N. & Nolin, M.J. (March/April 1995) "School, home, and community factors related to peer approval of drug use". Paper presented at the Eastern Sociological Annual Meeting: Philadelphia, PA. Data from the National Household Education Survey 1993 School Safety and Discipline Component, National Center for Education Statistics.

Figure SD 3.6.B PERCENT OF STUDENTS IN GRADES 6-12 REPORTING PEER DISAPPROVAL OF ALCOHOL, MARIJUANA, AND OTHER DRUG USE, BY GRADE: 1993



Source: Vaden-Kiernan, N. & Nolin, M.J. (March/April 1995) "School, home, and community factors related to peer approval of drug use." Paper presented at the Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting: Philadelphia, PA. Data from the National Household Education Survey 1993 School Safety and Discipline Component, National Center for Education Statistics.

## Table SD 3.6 PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS IN GRADES 6 THROUGH 12 REPORTING THAT PEERS DO NOT APPROVE OF USE OF ALCOHOL, MARIJUANA, OR OTHER DRUGS: 1993

	Percent of Friends at School Who Do Not Think it is Alright to:				
	Drink Alcohol	Smoke Marijuana	Use Other Drugs		
Total	57	80	87		
Gender					
Male	56	81	88		
Female	57	80	85		
Race/Ethnicity					
White, non-Hispanic	55	82	87		
Black, non-Hispanic	57	77	86		
Hispanic	61	77	83		
Grade					
6-8	79	93	94		
9-10	43	73	82		
11-12	32	66	78		
Household poverty status					
Not poor	55	80	87		
Poor	61	80	87		
Received school alcohol/drug education within past year					
In Current Year	58	81	87		
Not in Current Year	52	76	83		
Discussion With Parents About Avoiding Alcohol or Drugs					
Yes	65	84	88		
No	52	78	86		

Source: Vaden-Kiernan, N. & Nolin, M. J. (March /April 1995) "School, home, and community factors related to peer approval of drug use." Paper presented at the Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting: Philadelphia, PA.

Data are from the National Household Education Survey 1993 School and Safety Component, National Center for Education Statistics.

#### SD 4.1 SEXUALLY EXPERIENCED TEENS

Sexual experience, and particularly the age at first intercourse, represent critical indicators of the risk of pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. Youth who begin having sex at younger ages are exposed to these risks over a longer period of time. Because sexual intercourse during the teen years, especially first intercourse, is often unplanned, <sup>47</sup> it is not surprising that it is often unprotected by contraception. <sup>48</sup> In addition, research has shown that youth who have early sexual experience are more likely at later ages to have more sexual partners and more frequent intercourse. <sup>49</sup>

The trends over the past several decades show that increasing proportions of teens have had sexual intercourse. Table SD 4.1 shows data for females in three cohorts: those who turned 20 in 1958-1960, 1970-1972, and 1985-1987. Data for males are presented for the two most recent cohorts only. Among males, the later cohort has slightly higher levels of sexual activity at young ages than those of the earlier cohort, but at older ages the increase in sexual activity becomes larger. For example, among males age 13, 9 percent of the earlier cohort had experienced sexual intercourse compared to 11 percent of the later cohort. However, at age 17, the difference between the two cohorts in the proportion of sexually active was 11 percentage points (41 percent versus 52 percent).

Among females, the percentage who were sexually experienced increased for all ages between the 1970-1972 and 1985-1987 cohorts. Percentages also increased between the 1958-1960 and 1970-1972 cohorts, but the increases were smaller and existed only for females ages 15 and older. For example, the percentage of 18 year old females who were sexually experienced increased from 27 percent for the 1958-1960 cohort to 35 percent for the 1970-1972 cohort and 52 percent for the 1985-1987 cohort.

By the late teen years, most teens are sexually experienced, however it is important to note that not all teens are sexually experienced. Among the most recent cohort of youth, it is estimated that more than half of adolescent females and nearly two-thirds of adolescent males had intercourse by age 18 (Figure SD 4.1). However, nearly one in five abstained from sexual intercourse throughout their teenage years. Age is the most important correlate of teen sexual experience. At age 13, just over 1 in 10 males and only 1 in 50 females were sexually experienced, but by age 20, about 3 in 4 females and 4 out of 5 males and females were sexually experienced.

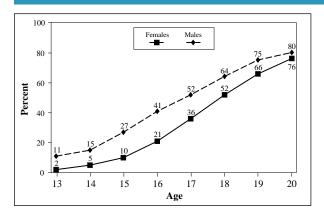
At every year of age more teen males than females report having had intercourse. The gender difference in teen sexual experience has been declining over time, but still the proportion of teen males at each year of age who report having sex is roughly equal to the number of sexually experienced teen females who are one year older.

 $<sup>^{47}</sup> Lowenstein, G.$  and Furstenberg, F.F. 1991. "Is teenage sexual behavior rational?" *Journal of Applied Social Psychology* 21(12): 957-986.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup>Forrest, J. D., and Singh, S. 1990. "The sexual and reproductive behavior of American women, 1982-1988." *Family Planning Perspectives* 22 (5): 206-214.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup>Koyle, P., Jensen, L., Olsen, J., and Cundick, B. 1989. "Comparison of sexual behaviors among adolescents having an early, middle, and late first intercourse experience." *Youth and Society* 20(4): 461-475.

Figure SD 4.1 PERCENT OF FEMALES AND MALES WHO HAVE HAD INTERCOURSE BY EACH AGE, COHORT AGED 20 IN 1985 - 1987



Source: Alan Guttmacher Institute. (1994). *Sex and America's Teenagers,* New York, NY: Alan Guttmacher Institute. Based on data from the 1988 National Survey of Family Growth and the 1991 Survey of Men.

		Females Who Turned A	Age 20 in:
	1958-1960	1970-1972	1985-1987
Ages			
13	1	0	2
14	2	1	5
15	3	4	10
16	8	9	21
17	16	20	36
18	27	35	52
19	46	53	66
20	61	68	76
		Males Who Turned Aç	ge 20 in:
	1958-1960	1970-1972	1985-1987
ges			
13	_	9	11
14	_	13	15
15	_	20	27
16	_	30	41
17	_	41	52
18	_	55	64
19	_	67	75
			80

Note: Data are based on females aged 30-32 and 42-44 in the 1982 National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG) and aged 21-23 and 36-38 in the 1988 NSFG and males aged 21-23 and 36-38 in the 1991 Survey of Men.

Source: Alan Guttmacher Institute, 1994. Sex and America's Teenagers, New York, NY. Alan Guttmacher Institute.

#### SD 4.2 SEXUALLY ACTIVE TEENS

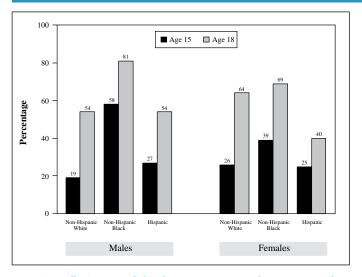
Having become sexually experienced does not necessarily mean a teenager will be sexually active from that point on. They may still abstain from intercourse out of concern for the risk of pregnancy or sexually transmitted diseases, or they may experience periods in which they do not have a sexual partner and are not sexually active, and therefore are not at risk. Nevertheless, research indicates that once a person has had sex, they are likely to continue to be sexually active; among young adults aged 18-22 who had ever had intercourse, over 70 percent had a second experience of intercourse within six months of first intercourse.<sup>50</sup>

Figure SD 4.2 shows the proportion of teens at each age who have had intercourse in the previous three months by gender and race/ethnicity for 1992. At age 15, 58 percent of non-Hispanic black males were sexually active compared to 19 percent of non-Hispanic white males and 27 percent of Hispanic males. Among females, 39 percent of non-Hispanic blacks are sexually active compared to about one quarter of non-Hispanic whites and Hispanics.

By age 18, a majority of teens in each of these groups reported being sexually active, with the exception of Hispanic females of whom only 40 percent reported recent sexual activity. Non-Hispanic white and Hispanic 18 year old males had rates of 54 percent; non-Hispanic white and black 18 year old females had rates of 64 and 69 percent, respectively. Among non-Hispanic black males of that age, 81 percent reported being sexually active.

 $^{50}\text{Moore},$  K.A. and Peterson, J.L. August 1989. "The Consequences of Teenage Pregnancy." Final report to NICHD and ASPE/HHS, Grant number HD 21537.

Figure SD 4.2 PERCENT OF ALL YOUTH WHO ARE SEXUALLY ACTIVE BY AGE 15 AND AGE 18, BY GENDER AND RACE/ETHNICITY, 1992



Note: Sexually Active is defined as intercourse in the past 3 months.

Source: 1992 National Health Interview Survey — Youth Risk Behavior Supplement, tabulations by Child Trends, Inc., weighted analyses.

# Table SD 4.2 SEXUALLY ACTIVE TEENS: PERCENT OF TEENS AGE 15 AND 18 WHO REPORT HAVING HAD INTERCOURSE IN THE PREVIOUS THREE MONTHS, BY GENDER AND RACE/ETHNICITY, 1992

	Age 15	Age 18	
M			
Males			
Non-Hispanic White	19	54	
Non-Hispanic Black	58	81	
Hispanic	27	54	
Females			
Non-Hispanic White	26	64	
Non-Hispanic Black	39	69	
Hispanic	25	40	

 $Source: 1992\ National\ Health\ Interview\ Survey --Youth\ Risk\ Behavior\ Supplement,\ tabulations\ by\ Child\ Trends,\ Inc.,\ weighted\ analyses$ 

#### SD 4.3 UNPROTECTED SEX

Sexual intercourse without contraception puts a teen at risk of unintended pregnancy and of contracting a sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS. The vast majority of teens do not want to become pregnant. Data from a national survey shows that among teens who had first intercourse at age 17 or younger, only about one in one hundred wanted a pregnancy to occur at that time, and this was true for both males and females, and for both blacks and whites.<sup>51</sup> Nevertheless, some of these sexually active teens who do not want to become pregnant do not use any contraception. The estimated risk of a female aged 15-19 becoming pregnant during one year of intercourse using no contraceptive method is 90 percent.<sup>52</sup> Teens who do not use contraception account for nearly 50 percent of the unintended teen pregnancies.<sup>53</sup>

Data on the level of unprotected sexual intercourse among teen females at risk of unintended pregnancy, shown in Table SD 4.3.a, indicate that older teens, white teens, and higher income female teens are more likely to use contraception. Among females at risk of an unintended pregnancy, 27 percent of those aged 15-17 and 16 percent of those aged 18-19 were using no contraception in 1988. Contraceptive use also varied by race and ethnicity. Hispanic females were the least likely to use contraception—35 percent used no method—compared to 23 percent of black females and 19 percent of whites females. Higher income teen females were also somewhat more likely to use contraception. While 17 percent of teens whose family incomes were 200 percent of the poverty line or above were using no contraception, 29 percent of low-income teens (100-199 percent of poverty) and 22 percent of poor teens were using no contraception.

Data for males show that the proportion who were not using an effective contraceptive method declined substantially from 1979 to 1988, although there was still a substantial group who are not using effective contraception. In 1979, 51 percent of urban males aged 17-19 reported that neither they nor their partner were using an effective method of contraception. By 1988 the proportion had declined substantially to 21 percent. (See Table SD 4.3.b) The increase in contraceptive use over time was due to increasing levels of condom use; use of other methods actually declined. However, there was no substantial change in contraceptive use from 1988 to 1991 among males aged 17.5-19. Some have suggested that the increased awareness of AIDS and the public attention towards AIDS in the 1980s resulted in increases in condom use.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup>Moore, K.A. and Peterson, J.L. August, 1989. "The Consequences of Teenage Pregnancy." Final Report to NICHD and ASPE/DHHS, Grant No. HD 21537.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup>Harlap, S., Kost, K., and Forrest, J.D. 1991. *Preventing Pregnancy, Protecting Health: A New Look at Birth Control Choices in the United States.* New York, NY: Alan Guttmacher Institute, Table 8.2, p. 121.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup>Forrest, J.D. 1994. "Epidemiology of unintended pregnancy and contraceptive use." *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology* 170:1485-1489.

## Table SD 4.3.A PERCENT USING NO METHOD OF CONTRACEPTION AMONG FEMALES AGED 15-19 WHO ARE AT RISK OF UNINTENDED PREGNANCY: 1988

	Percent Using No Method of Contraception		
Age Group			
	27		
15-17	27		
18-19	16		
Race/Ethnicity			
Black	23		
Hispanic	35		
White	19		
Poverty Level			
< 100% of Poverty	22		
100-199%	29		
200% or more	17		

Note: 1. The definition of "at risk" excludes females who have never had intercourse, are pregnant/postpartum/seeking pregnancy, and who are non-contraceptively sterile.

2. Methods of contraception include sterilization, oral contraceptives, IUD, diaphragm, condom, withdrawal, spermicidal foam or jelly, douche, and periodic abstinence or the rhythm method.

Source: Based on tabulations by the Alan Guttmacher Institute of data from the 1982 and 1988 National Survey of Family Growth.

## Table SD 4.3.B PERCENT USING CONTRACEPTIVES AT LAST INTERCOURSE AMONG SEXUALLY ACTIVE YOUNG MALES: 1979-1991

Urban Males, Aged 17-19		All Males, Aç	ged 17.5-19
1979	1988	1988	1991
NSYM	NSAM	NSAM	NSAM
20	54	53	56
29	25	27	23
51	21	20	21
	1979 NSYM 20 29	1979 1988 NSYM NSAM  20 54  29 25	1979     1988     1988       NSYM     NSAM     NSAM       20     54     53       29     25     27

Note: Female contraceptive methods include oral contraceptives, diaphragm, IUD, contraceptive foam or jelly, and Today Sponge. When combined with condom use, these methods are classified under condom use.

Source: National Survey of Young Men; Sonenstein, Freya, Joseph Pleck, and Leighton Ku. "At Risk of AIDS," March, 1989, Table 5; Zelnick, M., and J. Kantner, "Sexual Activity, Contraceptive Use and Pregnancy Among Metropolitan-Area Teenagers: 1971-1979," *Family Planning Perspectives*, 12(5), September/October, 1980.

#### SD 4.4 NUMBER OF SEXUAL PARTNERS

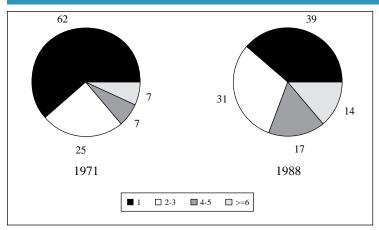
The greater the number of sexual partners a person has, the greater the risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS. Since the early 1970s, the number of sexual partners among sexually active females has increased (See Figure SD 4.4.a). In 1971, 62 percent of sexually active females aged 15-19 living in metropolitan areas had had one partner in their lifetime, whereas by 1988, only 39 percent had only one partner. Furthermore, the proportion of females with a high number of partners—6 or more in their lifetime—doubled over this same time period (from 7 percent to 14 percent). Black females were slightly less likely to have had only one partner than whites, but the trend is similar. (See Table SD 4.4.a)

Unfortunately, trend data for males are rather limited, but, as shown in Table SD 4.4.b, among never-married sexually experienced males aged 17.5-19, the mean number of partners over the previous 12 months increased from 2.0 in 1988 to 2.6 in 1991. There was also an increase in the percent of males with 5 or more partners in the past year from 6.3 percent in 1988 to 10.7 percent in 1991. The mean number of partners over the past 4 weeks was unchanged.

Recent data show that among sexually active teens, males, especially non-Hispanic black and poor males, are more likely to have a high number of partners than females. In 1992, among teens ages 15-19, 45 percent of non-Hispanic black males and 40 percent of all males below the poverty line had 6 or more partners in their lifetime, compared to just over a quarter of non-Hispanic white males and males who were at or above the poverty line, one-third of Hispanic males, and less than one in five females in all race/ethnic and poverty groups (See Table SD 4.4.c). It is interesting that among females, given sexually activity, there do not appear to be large differences in the numbers of sexual partners regardless of poverty status. Although Hispanic females are more likely to have only one partner and less likely to have had 6 or more partners, non-Hispanic white and non-Hispanic black females who are sexually active have rather similar patterns of numbers of partners. (See Table SD 4.4.c).

Age at first intercourse has a strong association with number of partners a person accumulates (Table SD 4.4.d); early intercourse means that over the years there is more time to accumulate partners. Figure SD 4.4.b shows that among teens who were age 20 in 1992, 74 percent of males who had sexual intercourse at age 14 or younger had 6 or more partners during their lifetime, compared to 48 percent of those who initiated sex at ages 15 or 16 and 10 percent of those who did not have intercourse until age 17 or older. The comparable figures among females were 57 percent, 34 percent, and 10 percent, respectively.

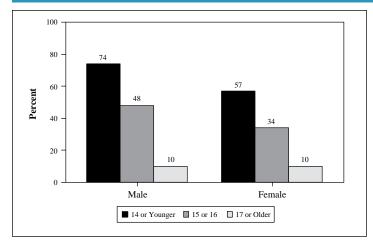
Figure SD 4.4.A PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF LIFETIME SEXUAL PARTNERS AMONG SEXUALLY ACTIVE FEMALES AGED 15-19 LIVING IN METROPOLITAN AREAS, 1971 AND 1988



Note: Similar time trend data are not available for males.

Source: Kost, K. and Forrest, J.D. 1992. "American women's sexual behavior and exposure to risk of sexually transmitted disease". Family Planning Perspectives 24(6): 244-254. Based on data from the National Surveys of Young Women and the 1988 *National Survey of Family Growth.* 

Figure SD 4.4.B PERCENT WITH 6 OR MORE LIFETIME SEXUAL PARTNERS AMONG SEXUALLY ACTIVE TEENS AGE 20, BY AGE AT FIRST INTERCOURSE, 1992



Source: 1992 National Health Interview Survey — Youth Risk Behavior Supplement, tabulations by Child Trends, Inc., weighted analysis.

Table SD 4.4.A PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF NUMBER OF SEXUAL PARTNERS AMONG SEXUALLY ACTIVE FEMALES AGED 15-19 LIVING IN METROPOLITAN AREAS, BY RACE, 1971, 1976, 1979, AND 1988

	1971	1976	1979	1988	
All Races					
1 Partner	62	53	49	39	
2-3 Partners	25	28	35	31	
4-5 Partners	7	9	8	17	
6 or More Partners	7	11	8	14	
Whites*					
1 Partner	62	56	51	40	
2-3 Partners	23	23	33	30	
4-5 Partners	7	8	7	17	
6 or More Partners	8	13	9	14	
Blacks					
1 Partner	61	43	41	35	
2-3 Partners	30	40	43	35	
4-5 Partners	5	2	11	18	
6 or More Partners	4	6	5	12	
Total	100	100	100	100	
*Includes a small number of women of other races who are not black.					

Note: The National Surveys of Young Women (1971, 1976, and 1979) asked respondents about their number of premarital partners, the 1988 National Surveys of Young Women asked respondents for their lifetime number of partners.

Source: Kost, K. And Forrest, J.D. 1992. "American women's sexual behavior and exposure to risk of sexually transmitted disease." *Family Planning Perspectives* 24(6): 244-254. Based on data from the National Surveys of Young Women and the 1988 National Survey of Family Growth.

## Table SD 4.4.B AVERAGE NUMBER OF SEXUAL PARTNERS AMONG NEVER-MARRIED MALES, AGED 17.5-19, 1988 AND 1991

	1988	1991	
Mean No. of Partners Last 12 Months			
(Among those Sexually Experienced)			
Total	2.0	2.6	
Black	2.4	4.3	
White	2.0	2.3	
Hispanic	1.8	2.1	
Mean No. of Partners in Last 4 Weeks			
(Among those with 1 or More Partners in Last 12 Months)	0.8	0.8	
Percent with 5 or More Partners in Last 12 Months	6.3	10.7	

Source: Ku, L., Sonestein, F.L. and Pleck, J.H, 1993. "Young males risk behaviors for HIV infection and sexually transmitted disease, 1988 through 1991". *American Journal of Public Health* 83(11): 1609-1615. Based on data from the 1988 and 1991 National Survey of Adolescent Males.

Table SD 4.4.C PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF NUMBER OF LIFETIME SEXUAL PARTNERS, AMONG SEXUALLY ACTIVE TEENS AGED 15-19, BY GENDER, RACE/ETHNICITY AND POVERTY LEVEL: 1992

	One Partner	2-3 Partners	4-5 Partners	≥ 6 Partners
Males	27	28	15	31
Non-Hispanic white	31	19	15	26
Non- Hispanic black	12	26	17	45
Hispanic	24	31	12	33
Below poverty	22	23	15	40
At or above poverty	28	30	15	27
Females	36	32	15	18
Non-Hispanic white	36	30	16	18
Non-Hispanic black	31	37	14	19
Hispanic	43	34	13	10
Below poverty	34	33	15	18
At or above poverty	37	30	15	18

Note: Percents may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

 $Source: 1992\ National\ Health\ Interview\ Survey\ --\ Youth\ Risk\ Behavior\ Supplement,\ Tabulations\ by\ Child\ Trends,\ Inc.,\ weighted\ analyses.$ 

Table SD 4.4.D PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF NUMBER OF LIFETIME SEXUAL PARTNERS AMONG SEXUALLY ACTIVE TEENS AGE 20, BY AGE AT FIRST INTERCOURSE: 1992

	Age at First Intercourse:				
	14 or Younger	15 or 16	17 or Older		
Males					
One Partner	2	9	42		
2-3 Partners	10	27	30		
4-5 Partners	15	16	19		
6 or More Partners	74	48	10		
Females					
One Partner	2	10	45		
2-3 Partners	26	28	33		
4-5 Partners	16	28	13		
6 or More Partners	57	34	10		

Note: Percents may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

 $Source: 1992\ National\ Health\ Interview\ Survey\ --\ Youth\ Risk\ Behavior\ Supplement,\ Tabulations\ by\ Child\ Trends,\ Inc.,\ weighted\ analyses.$ 

#### SD 4.5 TEEN PREGNANCY

From 1973 to 1990 the percent of females aged 15-19 who became pregnant generally increased, rising from 9.6% in 1973 to 11.5% in 1990. Since then, among females aged 15 to 17, the percent becoming pregnant has declined slightly from 7.6 percent in 1990 to 7.5 percent in 1991. Since 1990, among females aged 15 to 19, the percent becoming pregnant has leveled off, staying at 11.5 percent in 1991. In addition, among females aged 15 to 19, state data indicates that from 1991 through 1992, pregnancy rates decreased significantly in 30 of the 41 reporting states and the District of Columbia. 54

Pregnancy is more prevalent among older teens. Table SD 4.5 shows that the percent of all females aged 18-19 who become pregnant is more than double the corresponding percentage of all females aged 15 to 17. The overwhelming majority of U.S. teens do not want to become parents as teens. <sup>55</sup> Among all pregnancies to teens under age 20 at pregnancy outcome, 86 percent were unintended at conception. <sup>56</sup>

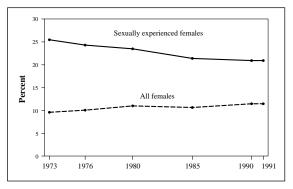
Figure SD 4.5 shows that among females aged 15 to 19 who have ever had sexual intercourse, the percent becoming pregnant declined from 25.4 percent in 1973 to 20.9 percent in 1990.

54State-specific Pregnancy and Birth Rates Among Teenagers—United States, 1991, 1992," MMWR, Sept. 22, 1995.

<sup>55</sup>Alan Guttmacher Institute, 1994. "Sex and America's Teenagers." New York, NY: Alan Guttmacher Institute.

<sup>56</sup>Unintended pregnancies tabulated by Alan Guttmacher Institute based on National Survey of Family Growth in "Facts at a Glance," Washington, D.C.: Child Trends, Inc., 1995.

Figure SD 4.5 PERCENT EXPERIENCING PREGNANCY EACH YEAR AMONG FEMALES AGED 15-19, BY SEXUAL EXPERIENCE 1972 - 1991



Note: Pregnancies are calculated by summing the number of live births, the number of abortions, and the estimated number of spontaneous fetal losses. Spontaneous fetal losses are based on data from the National Survey of Family Growth conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics.

Source: All data for 1973, and sexually experienced female data for 1976, are from Henshaw, S.K. (1994) U.S. Teenage Pregnancy Statistics, New NY: Alan Guttmacher Institute; and Alan Guttmacher Institute, 1994. All other data from Ventura, S.J., Taffel S.M., Mosher, W.D., Wilson, J.B., and Henshaw, S.K. (1995). "Trends in Pregnancies and Pregnancy Rates: Estimates for the United States, 1980-92," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Volume 43, No. 11(S), May 25, 1995.

Percent Becoming Pregnant Each Year:	1973	1975	1980	1985	1990	1991
All Females Aged 14 or Less*	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7
All Females Aged 15-17	6.7	6.9	7.3	7.1	7.6	7.5
All Females Aged 18-19	14.1	14.9	16.2	15.8	16.6	17.1
All Females Aged 15-19	9.6	10.1	11.0	10.7	11.5	11.5
All Sexually Experienced Females Aged 15-19	25.4	24.3	23.5	21.4	20.9	20.9

<sup>\*</sup>Denominator is females aged 14.

Note: Pregnancies are calculated by summing the number of live births, the number of abortions, and the estimated number of spontaneous fetal losses. Spontaneous fetal losses are based on data from the National Survey of Family Growth conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics.

Source: All data for 1973, and sexually experienced female data for 1976, are from Henshaw, S.K. (1994) U.S. Teenage Pregnancy Statistics, New NY: Alan Guttmacher Institute; and Alan Guttmacher Institute, 1994. All other data from Ventura, S.J., Taffel S.M., Mosher, W.D., Wilson, J.B., and Henshaw, S.K. (1995). "Trends in Pregnancies and Pregnancy Rates: Estimates for the United States, 1980-92," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Volume 43, No. 11(S), May 25, 1995.

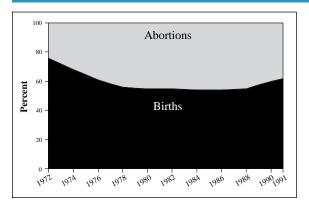
#### SD 4.6 ABORTION AMONG TEENS

The proportion of teen females aged 15-19 who obtained an abortion increased from 2.3 to 4.3 percent between 1973 and 1980, presumably influenced both by the legalization of abortion and increasing levels of sexual activity and pregnancy. (*See* Table SD 4.6) By 1991, the proportion obtaining abortions had dropped slightly to 3.8 percent. Similar patterns occurred among both younger teens (ages 15-17) and older teens (ages 18-19).

The percent of teens who are sexually experienced has increased during the past several decades, and therefore it is reasonable to consider abortion in light of this trend. When abortion rates are calculated among females age 15-19 who have ever had intercourse, the data indicate that the proportion obtaining abortions increased from 5.9 percent in 1973 to 9.1 percent in 1980, then declined to 6.8 percent in 1991. Thus, although a larger proportion of teen females were sexually experienced in 1990 than in 1980, a smaller proportion of those who were at risk of pregnancy obtained abortions.

Figure SD 4.6 depicts trends in the propensity to give birth versus obtaining an abortion given pregnancy over the past several years. In 1972, the proportion of pregnancies (excluding miscarriages) to females aged 15-19 which ended in birth was 76 percent. During the rest of the 1970s this proportion declined as abortion increased. However, throughout most of the 1980s, the proportion of pregnancies ending in birth remained fairly stable at around 55 percent. By 1991, there was an increase to 62 percent in the proportion of pregnancies ending in birth.

Figure SD 4.6 PERCENT OF PREGNANCIES AMONG FEMALES AGED 15-19 ENDING IN BIRTH AND ABORTION, 1972 - 1991



Note: Pregnancies do not include miscarriages

Source: Alan Guttmacher Institute. (1991) *Sex and America's Teenagers*, New York, NY: Alan Guttmacher Institute, Figure 33. Based on birth data from the National Center for Health Statistics and abortion data from the Alan Guttmacher Institute. Data for 1991 are from Ventura, S.J., Taffel, S.M., Mosher, W.D., Wilson, J.B., and Henshaw,S., "Trends in Pregnancies and Pregnancy Rates: Estimates for the United States, 1980-92," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 43, No. 11(S), May 25, 1995.

### Table SD 4.6 PERCENT OF TEEN FEMALES OBTAINING AN ABORTION DURING THE YEAR, BY AGE GROUP: 1973 - 1991

	1973	1975	1980	1985	1990	1991
Females Aged 14 or Less*	0.6	0.7	8.0	0.9	8.0	0.7
Females Aged 15-17	1.9	2.4	3.0	3.1	2.7	2.4
Females Aged 18-19	2.9	4.2	6.1	6.2	5.8	5.6
Females Aged 15-19	2.3	3.1	4.3	4.4	4.0	3.8
Sexually Experienced Females Aged 15-19	5.9	7.5	9.1	8.5	7.3	6.8

<sup>\*</sup>Denominator is females aged 14.

Source: Data for 1973 and 1975 are from Henshaw, S.K. (1994). *U.S. Teenage Pregnancy Statistics*. New York, NY: Alan Guttmacher Institute 1994. *Sex and America's Teenagers*. New York, NY: Alan Guttmacher Institute 1994; Based on data from abortion providers and sexual experience data from the National Survey of Family Growth. Data for 1980 - 1991 based on calculations from Ventura, S.J., Taffel, S.M., Mosher, W.D., Wilson, J.B., and Henshaw, S.K. (1995). "Trends in Pregnancies and Pregnancy Rates: Estimates for the United States, 1980-92," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Volume 43, No. 11(S), May 25, 1995. Data for 1985 were interpolated from 1980 and 1988 data.

#### SD 4.7 TEEN BIRTHS

Although much of the discussion around teen fertility focuses on nonmarital birth, research indicates that having a teen birth can have negative impacts on both mothers and their children regardless of the marital status of the mother. Giving birth at an early age can limit a young women's options regarding education and employment opportunities, increase the likelihood of receiving welfare, and can have negative impacts on the development of her children.<sup>57</sup>

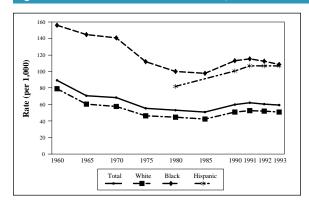
Figure 4.7.a shows trends in the number of teen births per 1000 teen women ages 15-19 from 1960 to 1993. Data are shown for all teens, and separately for white, black, and Hispanic teens ages 15-19. Between 1960 and 1985 the trend in teen birth rates was steadily downward from 89.1 to 51.0 births per 1000. Between 1985 and 1991, this trend reversed and the teen birth rate increased to 62.1 per 1000. Between 1991 and 1993, the rate fell modestly to 59.6 per 1000.

These basic historical trends are evident for white, black, and Hispanic teens as well. (*See* Table 4.7.a) Among whites age 15-19, rates went from 79.4 to 43.3 between 1960 and 1985, and rose to 52.8 in 1991 before dipping slightly to 51.1 in 1993. Rates for black teens have been consistently higher but follow the same pattern going from 156.1 to 95.4 per 1000 from 1960 to 1985, then increasing to a high of 115.5 in 1991 before dropping to 108.6 in 1993. Trends for Hispanic teens ages 15-19, which have been available only since 1980, indicate that the teen birth rate has risen steadily from 82.2 per 100 in 1980 to 106.7 in 1991, and continued to rise to 107.1 in 1992 before dropping slightly to 106.8 in 1993.

An important issue for policy purposes, and one that has received little attention, is the question of who are the fathers of these children born to teen mothers. Figure 4.7.b shows estimates of the percent of these fathers who were not themselves teenagers by age of mother for 1988. The data clearly reveal that the majority of these fathers were not teenagers. Even for mothers who were age 15 at the time their child was born, 39 percent of the fathers were age 20 or older. By mother's age 17, over half (55 percent) of the fathers were age 20 or older, rising to 78 percent by mother's age 19.

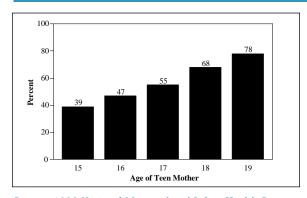
<sup>57</sup>Moore, K.M. 1993. *Teenage Childbearing: A Pragmatic Perspective*. Child Trends, Inc. Washington, D.C.

Figure SD 4.7.A TEEN FERTILITY RATES (BIRTHS PER 1,000 TEEN WOMEN) BY RACE/ETHNICITY: 1960 - 1993



Source: Compiled by Child Trends, Inc., with data from annual Natality volumes of the Vital Statistics Branch of the National Center for Health Statistics.

Figure SD 4.7.B PERCENT OF CHILDREN OF TEEN MOTHERS WHO WERE FATHERED BY MEN AGES 20 AND OLDER, BY AGE OF MOTHER, 1988



Source: 1988 National Maternal and Infant Health Survey tabulations by the Alan Guttmacher Institute, calculations by Child Trends, Inc.

Table SD 4.7.A TEENAGE FERTILITY RATES (Births Per 1,000 Teen Women) BY AGE OF MOTHER AND RACE/ETHNICITY: 1960 - 1992

	1960	1965	1970	1975	1980 <sup>a</sup>	1985ª	1990 <sup>a</sup>	1991 <sup>a</sup>	1992 <sup>a</sup>	1993 <sup>a</sup>
A 11 D										
All Races										
Age 15-17	_	_	38.8	36.1	32.5	31.0	37.5	38.7	37.8	37.8
Age 18-19	_	_	114.7	85.0	82.1	79.6	88.6	94.4	94.5	92.1
Age 15-19	89.1	70.4	68.3	55.6	53.0	51.0	59.9	62.1	60.7	59.6
White										
Age 15-17	_	_	29.2	28.0	25.5	24.4	29.5	30.7	30.1	30.3
Age 18-19	_	_	101.5	74.0	73.2	70.4	78.0	83.5	83.8	82.1
Age 15-19	79.4	60.6	57.4	46.4	45.4	43.3	50.8	52.8	51.8	51.1
Black										
Age 15-17	_	_	101.4	85.6	72.5	69.3	82.3	84.1	81.3	79.8
Age 18-19	_	_	204.9	152.4	135.1	132.4	152.9	158.6	157.9	151.9
Age 15-19	156.1	144.6	140.7	111.8	97.8	95.4	112.8	115.5	112.4	108.6
Hispanic										
Age 15-17	_	_	_	_	52.1	_	65.9	70.6	71.4	71.7
Age 18-19	_	_	_	_	126.9	_	147.7	158.5	159.7	159.1
Age 15-19	_	_	_	_	82.2	_	100.3	106.7	107.1	106.8

Notes: Data for Hispanics have been available only since 1980, with 22 states reporting in 1980, representing 90% of the Hispanic population. Hispanic birth data were reported by 23 states and DC in 1985, 48 states and DC in 1990; and 49 states and DC in 1991 and 1992.

<sup>a</sup>Births by race of mother. Tabulations prior to 1980 for black and whites (and for 1980 for Hispanics) are by race/ethnicity of child, which assigns the child to the race/ethnicity of the non-white parent, if any, or to the race/ethnicity of the father if both are non-white.

Source: Compiled by Child Trends, Inc., with data from annual Natality volumes of the Vital Statistics Branch of the National Center for Health Statistics.

### Table SD 4.7.B PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO TEEN MOTHERS BY AGE OF MOTHER AND AGE OF FATHER, 1988

		Age of Father		
	≤ 17	18 - 19	20+	
Age of Mother				
15	30	31	39	
16	25	28	47	
17	15	30	55	
18	5	27	68	
19	4	18	78	
Total ≤ 19	10	25	65	

Source: 1988 National Maternal and Infant Health Survey tabulations by the Alan Guttmacher Institute, calculations by Child Trends, Inc.

#### SD 4.8 TEEN NON-MARITAL BIRTH RATE

While teen sexual behavior, pregnancy and parenthood have received increased attention for several decades, even more attention has been focussed on the increase in non-marital teen childbearing. For this trend are varied. One reason may be a decrease in the stigma of non-marital childbearing. The traditional response to premarital pregnancy—marriage before the birth of the child—has become much less common. Others argue that high unemployment, particularly among black males, has diminished the attractiveness of young men as marriage partners. Also, the availability of abortion may cause men to feel less responsible and less willing to marry the mother of their child because abortion is an alternative.

Non-marital childbearing among teens is a concern because of the personal, economic, and social consequences for the child, the teen parent, and society. Raising a child is a challenging task, even for two parents. A large body of research suggests that the absence of a father is associated with negative outcomes for children when they grow up. 62 For example, studies have linked growing up with a single parent to lower educational attainment for the child. 63 This trend is not isolated to teens. Rather, non-marital childbearing has increased among women of all ages. The issue of non-marital childbearing has focussed on teens because these young women often have little education and lack the ability to support their families economically, especially as a single parent.

Figure SD 4.8 shows the percent of births to women aged 15-19 which occurred outside of marriage by race/ethnicity group. The increase in non-marital childbearing has occurred among teens of all ages and across all race/ethnic groups. Among all teens aged 15-19, 15 percent of births were non-marital in 1960, compared to 70 percent in 1992. Non-marital childbearing is higher among blacks; in 1992, 93 percent of births to black females aged 15-19 were non-marital, compared to less than two-thirds among whites and Hispanics. Non-marital births were more prevalent among younger teens. For example, in 1992, 79 percent of births to 15-17 year olds were non-marital, compared to 65 percent among 18-19 year olds. This (*See* Table SD 4.8) pattern occurs across all race/ethnicity subgroups. However, increases in non-marital childbearing have been particularly dramatic among whites. In 1960, only 7 percent of births to white females age 15-19 were non-marital, compared to 60 percent of births in 1992.

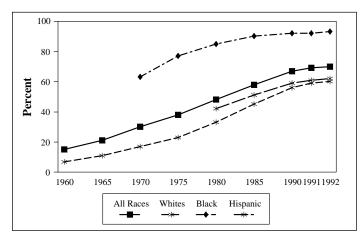
 $^{58}$ Furstenberg, F.F., Jr. 1991. "As the pendulum swings: Teenage childbearing and social concern." *Family Relations* 40(2):127-138.

<sup>59</sup>Pagnini, D.L. and Rindfuss, R.R. 1993. "The divorce of marriage and childbearing: Changing attitudes and behavior in the United States." *Population and Development Review* 19(2):331-347. <sup>60</sup>Furstenberg, F.F., Jr. 1991. "As the pendulum swings: Teenage childbearing and social concern." *Family Relations* 40(2):127-138.

<sup>61</sup>Wilson, W.J. 1987. The Truly Disadvantaged: The Inner City, the Underclass, and Public Policy. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press; Lichter, D.T., McLaughlin, D.K., Kephart, G., and Landry, D.J. 1992. "Race, local mate availability, and transitions to first marriage among young women." Paper presented to the annual meeting of the Population Association of America, Denver, CO, April 30 - May 2.

<sup>62</sup>McLanahan, S. and Sandefur, G. 1994. Growing up with a single parent: What hurts, what helps. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press; Haveman, R. and Wolfe, B. 1994. Succeeding generations: On the effects of investments in children. New York, NY: Russell Sage Foundation. <sup>63</sup>Knox, V. and Bane, M.J. 1994. "Child support and schooling." In I. Garfinkel, S. McLanahan, and P. Robins (Eds.). *Child Support and Child Well-Being.* Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

Figure SD 4.8 PERCENT OF ALL TEEN BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED TEENS AGES 15-19: 1960 - 1992



Source: Compiled by Child Trends, Inc., with data from annual Natality volumes of the Vital Statistics Branch of the National Center for Health Statistics

Table SD 4.8 PERCENT OF ALL TEEN BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED TEENS, BY AGE OF MOTHER AND RACE/ETHNICITY OF
CHILD: 1960 - 1992

	1960	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990 <sup>b</sup>	1991 <sup>b</sup>	1992
All Races									
Ages 15-17	24	33	43	51	61	71	78	79	79
Ages 18-19	11	15	22	30	40	51	61	63	65
Ages 15-19	15	21	30	38	48	58	67	69	70
White									
Ages 15-17	12	17	25	33	45	58	68	70	71
Ages 18-19	5	9	14	17	27	38	51	53	55
Ages 15-19	7	11	17	23	33	45	56	59	60
Black									
Ages 15-17	_	_	76	87	93	95	96	96	96
Ages 18-19	_	_	52	68	79	86	89	90	90
Ages 15-19	_	_	63	77	85	90	92	92	93
Hispanic <sup>a</sup>									
Ages 15-17	_	_	_	_	51	61	68	69	69
Ages 18-19	_	_	_	_	36	46	54	56	57
Ages 15-19	_	_	_	_	42	51	59	61	62

Note:  $^{a}$ Data for Hispanics have been available only since 1980, with 22 states reporting in 1980, representing 90% of the Hispanic population. Hispanic birth data was reported by 23 states and DC in 1985, 48 states and DC in 1991; and 49 states and DC in 1991 and 1992.

<sup>b</sup> Births by race of mother. Tabulations prior to 1989 were by race of child, which assigns the child to the race of the non-white parent, if any, or to the race of the father, if both are non-white.

Source: Compiled by Child Trends, Inc., with data from annual Natality volumes of the Vital Statistics Branch of the National Center for Health Statistics.

#### SD 4.9 SECOND AND HIGHER ORDER BIRTHS TO TEENS

Experiencing a birth during the teen years has been associated with poorer outcomes for young women,  $^{64}$  and giving birth to a second child while still a teen increases the risk of poor outcomes for the young women (e.g., school dropout),  $^{65}$  as well as their children. In addition, among teen mothers on AFDC, the occurrence of a subsequent teen birth reduces the likelihood of getting off of welfare.  $^{66}$  In terms of personal, social, and economic costs to the teen, to the child, and to society, it seems that delaying subsequent childbearing would be preferable. However, recent analyses of nationally representative data indicate that these young mothers proceed to have a second birth at about the same pace as older mothers.  $^{67}$ 

As shown in Table SD 4.9, the proportion of teen births which are second or higher order has increased in recent years. In fact, in 1991, nearly one-quarter of all teen births involved a second or higher order birth. Between 1985 and 1991, the proportion of teen births that were second or higher order births rose from 22 to 25 percent.

Subsequent teen births are more common among certain subgroups of the population. In 1991, a higher proportion of births among married teens were second or higher order births (28 percent) than births to unmarried teens (23 percent). Moreover, births to teens with lower educational attainment are more likely to be subsequent births; 27 percent of births to teens who had not graduated from high school were second or higher order births compared to 19 percent for teens who had a high school education. Finally, births to black and Hispanic teens were more likely to be subsequent births than births to whites, with black teens at 32 percent, Hispanic teens at 26 percent, and white teens at 21 percent.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup>Moore, K.A., Myers, D.E., Morrison, D.R., Nord, C.W., Brown, B.B., and Edmonston, B. 1993.
 "Age at first childbirth and later poverty." *Journal of Research on Adolescence* 3(4):393-422.
 <sup>65</sup>Kalmuss, D. and Namerow, P.B. 1992. "The mediators of educational attainment among early childbearers." Unpublished manuscript. Columbia University, Center for Population and Family Health.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>66</sup>Moore, K.A. and Hofferth, S. 1978. "The consequences of age at first childbirth: Female-headed families and welfare recipiency." Working paper 1146-05. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup>Moore, K.A., Myers, D.E., Morrison, D.R., Nord, C.W., Brown, B. and Edmonston, B. 1993. "Age at first childbirth and later poverty." *Journal of Research on Adolescence* 3(4):393-422.

# Table SD 4.9 PERCENT OF ALL TEEN BIRTHS THAT ARE SECOND OR HIGHER ORDER, BY MARITAL STATUS, EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, AND RACE/ETHNICITY: 1985 AND 1991

	1985	1991	
All Births	22	25	
7.11. 5.11.13	22	20	
Race/Ethnicity			
White	20	21	
Black	27	32	
Hispanic	25	26	
Other	26	25	
Educational Attainment			
High school graduate	16	19	
Not high school graduate	25	27	
Marital Status			
Married	26	28	
Single	20	23	

Source: Child Trends, Inc., tabulations of Natality data for 1985 and 1991 from the National Center for Health Statistics.